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AHAN

FAMILY
HISTORY
CARNAHAN

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ECKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY
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Auburn, IN 46706

12-79

11650 Nebraska Ave.
Tampa 4, Fla.Box 8126.
November 27, 1961.

The Eckhart Public Library
Auburn, Indiana.
Attn. Librarian.

Dear Sir:

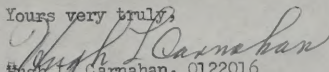
About two years ago I sent you a paper on the Carnahan Notes. My grandfather, three of his brothers and two sisters came to Jackson Township, De Kalb Co. in 1854 and 1855. A lot of their descendants are still living in that vicinity. The enclosed paper has to do with the fortunes of the family which came in to Erie County, Pennsylvania, in 1783, the first English speaking white settlers of that area.

This should be interesting for any member of the family as little was known of this period of the family history when I was getting my mail at Auburn. It shows the development of this part of the country when there were no roads and all travel or commerce of any volume was by waterway.

From all I have found out, it would seem that the family is a branch of a tribe or tribes that originated in north Ireland during medieval times, but is now widely scattered all over the country. Enough leads are given to warrant further investigation along this line under the various spellings of the name at various times.

I trust this will be of some use to you. I may be in Auburn this coming spring when I may be able to answer some of the questions that come up.

Yours very truly,


Hugh L. Carnahan, 0122016
Colonel, Army of the United States, Retired.

1912 53rd St.,
Des Moines 10, Iowa.
November 1, 1955.

Dear Cousins:

My attempt to trace back and establish the history of the Carnahan family has not been very successful. About all I have to go on is the memories of my grandfather, Hezekiah Lewis Carnahan (1830-1914), as recorded by my father, W. J. Carnahan (1860-1934). About 1914 these memories were made into a family history that some of you have heard read at family reunions. It is reproduced in the following notes. It is not very definite as Hezekiah L., or H.L., as he preferred being known, was eighteen years of age at the death of his father Thomas Carnahan (1783-1849).

For genealogical purposes it is of primary importance to have official or public documents mentioning the individual's name from which facts can be established. These include proceedings of a court of record, probated wills, land patents, land records, birth certificates, marriage licenses, and military records like discharges, muster and pay rolls. Of secondary importance are newspaper clippings, church records, contemporary writings like county histories, old letters, family bibles, etc.

As time goes on the secondary records are lost or thrown away by those who have no idea of their value. Many of the earlier public records have suffered the same fate through fire, improper storing, fading or the like. Only in recent times have birth or marriage records been publicly recorded in all states. Old Protestant church records are notoriously incomplete.

The oldest authentic public record at the moment in the family history is where two pay rolls of the War of 1812 show that Thomas Carnahan served in Pennsylvania Militia from Erie County for two short periods. Pennsylvania has gone through its earlier records in storage and printed many of them in the Pennsylvania Archives Series which are available in the Genealogical Section of large Public Libraries in many of the big cities.

Through these Series it is possible in many cases to trace the family and search state or county records for details. It is necessary to remember the date mentioned, as the earlier counties were quite large and were subdivided into other counties as the population increased. Town and political subdivisions change names, so these can be confusing. Old customs and legal practices of the time must be understood to get the full significance of the records.

When Wm. Penn opened up his vast holdings for settlement he granted many religious and political privileges that attracted the oppressed peoples of Western Europe. Under the Proprietaries when a man wanted land he secured a warrant from them calling upon the local surveyor to survey the amount of acreage in the locality of land acceptable to him. After seven years of clearing and improving it, if enough work had been done, he could purchase it for the agreed sum and a small yearly tax thereafter. In York County in 1754 this was 15 Pounds 10 Shillings English Money for the purchase price of one-hundred acres. When purchased he was granted an original patent for the land and it was later recorded at the county seat. The land was not laid out on section lines as in the Midwest later, but a map of the original patents resembles a jigsaw puzzle as the best lands were taken up.

Warranties of Land, and after the Revolutionary War, Surveys of Land, are recorded in Pa. Archives Series 3, as are many tax rolls and assessments of about this period.

For people who were not British subjects at the time a closer record was kept as they entered the country mostly at Philadelphia or Chester. These contain ship lists or passenger lists, lists of indentured servants, lists of those naturalized and the like. The Carnahan family evidently were subjects of the Crown and may have come in at the above two ports or through other provinces. The first mention of the family is a Warrant of Land in Lancaster County to Thomas Carnahan in 1748.

From then on the Archives indicate that the family was fairly numerous in what were then Lancaster, Westmoreland and Bedford Counties. The following given names appear several times each, John, James, Thomas, David, William, Robert, Hannah, George and Adam. The number of them makes it difficult to trace any branch without authentic documents to indicate which are in line of descent.

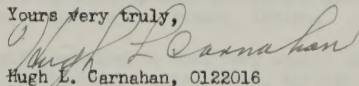
During an active life covering service in World Wars I and II, travel or residence in each of the forty-eight states, I have frequently come across the name or individuals bearing it. In most cases we could not establish a relationship although the given name was one of those common to our family. Strangers have inquired as to my home and have told me they have known others of the name. Some of the Pennsylvania histories of early times have mentioned prominent citizens of that name. A glance in the telephone directories of cities all over the country will show a few Carnahans.

From all I can gather our branch were small freeholders, tenant farmers, mechanics and the like. They did not have large holdings, had no wills probated; stayed out of court and out of jail; and when buried raised few stones to mark the final resting place. All of this leaves very little on which to establish a family tree at this date.

From all the leads I have tried to follow I believe that the family came originally from Ayrshire, Scotland, the Robert Burns country. They were Lowland Scotch. In 1607 when the Irish nobles were conquered and driven out of Northern Ireland, their lands were given to court favorites of the English Sovereign. To hold this land the favorites called in English and Scotch farmers on favorable terms so they would have tenants who would protect the estates by military service. Some of the family went over to County Antrim and other parts. When Pennsylvania was opened up for settlement members of the family from both places came in. Some came to Canada and they and others have been coming and going across the border from time to time as opportunity offered. Old records are still being examined and prepared for printing at Harrisburg so in time revealing data may come to light. I am passing on what I have found to you in the hopes that someone that has more time and patience than I can carry the search further.

In the meantime I would suggest that each of you write up your particular line back to the sons of Thomas Carnahan and preserve the documents that will prove your statements. They will be of great value later on.

Yours very truly,


Hugh E. Carnahan, 0122016

Colonel, Army of the United States, Retired

August 1914.

In answer to a call for a family history, I offer this little book. Realizing the incompleteness of family records I ask the indulgence of all for any mistakes that may be made.

Of the history of the Carnahan family very little is known and my knowledge of the early history of the family was largely gained from my father, Hezekiah Carnahan, before his memory began to fail.

I shall not go farther into the history of the family in these pages than the sons and daughters of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan, the remainder may very properly be added as the years go by.

Hoping that these few pages may inspire in the family a determination to do better and greater things in life, and a desire to perpetuate the family history, I am,

Yours respectfully,

W. J. Carnahan

JOHN CARNAHAN was a Scotchman by birth, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was present at the Battle of Brandywine, where the soldiers crossed that turbulent little river on the bodies of the slain; the water was stained with blood for five miles. He served under General Washington during the entire war and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

His wife, whose given name was Fanny, is thought to have been Irish, but of her nothing definite is known. He moved to Erie County, Pennsylvania, in 1783 and died some time between 1800 and 1809.

He was an expert woodsman, being able to travel for days at a time with unerring certainty through the trackless forests of his day.

His children were, William, Robert, Thomas, Francis, Elizabeth and Catherine. We know nothing of the children except Thomas, who is the founder of our branch of the family.

THOMAS CARNAHAN, son of John and Fanny Carnahan, was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, in 1783; moved with his parents the same year to Erie County. In 1809 he married Elizabeth Smith and a few years afterward moved to Mercer, now Lawrence County, Pennsylvania.

He was a soldier under General Harrison during the War of 1812, was taken sick at Fort Defiance, Ohio, but afterward returned to the army and was honorably discharged.

He was a man rather under the medium height, with powerful shoulders and arms and small hands and feet, was very quick and active. At the age of 65, his last harvest, he cut with a sickle and bound 30 dozen sheaves of wheat per day, working steadily the entire harvest.

In 1835 he moved to Richland County, Ohio. In the fall of 1848 he started to Erie County, Pennsylvania, on a visit. He rode with his son Hezekiah, then a boy of 17, on a load of wheat to Milan and the rest of the journey on foot. He was taken sick while there and died March 6, 1849, and is buried somewhere in Erie County, Pennsylvania.

ELIZABETH SMITH, wife of Thomas Carnahan, was born in Ireland and came to this country when about eleven years old. In 1855 she came with Hezekiah, Wilson and Fanny to De Kalb County, Indiana. She died at the residence of her son Hezekiah, March 8, 1864 and is buried in the Evergreen Cemetery at Auburn, Indiana.

In religion Thomas Carnahan and his wife belonged to that very strict sect, known locally at that time as Seceders. Their children are, Abner, William John, Baily D., Fanny, Samuel S., Elizabeth, James M., Hezekiah L., and Wilson S.

ABNER, the oldest son of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan, spent the greater portion of his life near Lockville in Wyoming County, Pennsylvania. He married Polly Rany and settled on the old Rany Homestead. No children were born to them, but they raised one foster child, Lydia Rany, who afterward married Scott Carnahan. These young people stayed with and cared for the old people as long as they lived and spent their own lifetime on the old farm. Abner Carnahan was a farmer of the better class and was also gifted with considerable mechanical skill, doing largely his own work of that nature.

WILLIAM JOHN, the second son of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan spent the greater portion of his life in Ashland and Richland Counties of Ohio. He married Rachel Nelson and died March 9, 1861, leaving four children, Scott, Romina, afterwards Mrs. Christ Ward, John N. and Marion O.

He was of rather short stature and like his father had very heavy shoulders and in his young manhood was very quick and active; he was a great reader and student, and held several offices of trust and profit in the township and county of his residence. His descendants -- children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, living and dead, are 30 persons.

BAILEY D., third son of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan, married for his first wife Eliza Nelson. To them were born six children, Emma, Miranda Ann, Eliza, Electa, Milton and Abner. He came to DeKalb County, Indiana, in 1854, where his wife died. He later married Mary Ann McNabb; no children were born to this union.

In his young manhood he was a very good tight barrel cooper. I was told that at one time with nothing but his axe, draw-shave and chime cutter he converted an oak tree into a porkbarrel.

He was of medium height, strongly built and before old age claimed him he was considered one of the champion grain cradlers of his day. It is said that one time he cut five acres of oats in half a day, with an old turkey-wing cradle.

He was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, April 6, 1816, and died March 8, 1889 and is buried in the Cedar Chapel Cemetery, DeKalb County, Indiana. His descendants number 68 persons.

FANNY, the fourth child of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan, was born in Pennsylvania, came with the family to Richland County, Ohio, in 1835. In 1855 she came to Indiana with her mother and two brothers, Hezekiah and Wilson. Here she married Wm. McNabb. One child a daughter, Mary, was born to them. Mary married John C. Bailey.

After the death of her husband, she made her home with her brother, Hezekiah, where she died February 16, 1887 and is buried in the cemetery at Leo. Her descendants number 10.

SAMUEL SMITH CARNAHAN was born in Pennsylvania, August 15, 1824; came to Ohio in 1835, where he grew to manhood and married Elizabeth Holsten. In 1854 they moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, and settled on the farm where he died March 2, 1885. At his request he was buried on the farm under an apple tree, but a year later was removed to the Evergreen Cemetery, at Auburn, Indiana, where he now rests.

In early manhood he learned the cobbler's trade, mastering it without a teacher. For a long time he made the boots and shoes for the family and for others. Many a time the writer has watched him as he plied his trade before the blazing fireplace. As age came upon him he received a stroke of paralysis, from which he never recovered and in a few years passed away, leaving seven children, Ellen, James, John, Malinda, Riley, Ada, and Perry, the oldest child, William, having died in infancy. His descendants number 51.

ELIZABETH was married three times, the first time to Gordon Hazen. Three children were born to them, Henry, Hiram and Jane. Henry married but died without issue. Hiram died in early manhood. Jane married O.K. Ingersol of Auburn. Elizabeth married Dr. Crandal Morgan, but no children were born to them. She afterward married Abraham Scott. She died at their home in Butler, Indiana. Her descendants number 5.

JAMES M. CARNAHAN was born in Pennsylvania and grew to manhood in Richland County, Ohio, where he married Lucinda Lighthill. In 1852 they moved to Paulding County, Ohio, where together they met the hardships of pioneer life which the levelness of the country made doubly hard. A little anecdote related to the writer will illustrate this.

One day in early spring, while on his way to Sharloe, he saw one of his neighbors wading around in the yard, which was covered with water, and feeling ahead of him with a stick. On being asked what he was doing, he said he was trying to find the well, that his folks did not like wild water.

Today Paulding County is one of the banner counties of the state, but it has worn out a generation of sturdy pioneers.

James Carnahan is tall, with heavy shoulders and is very active. At the age of 86 he walked with as much activity as any of his children. He is at this writing the only one of the third generation living.

His children are, Polly, Wilson, Jesse, Martha, John, Issac, Almedia and Jemina. The total number of his descendants are 98 in all.

HEZEKIAH L. CARNAHAN was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, July 11, 1830. He came with the family to Richland County, Ohio in 1835; he moved with his mother, sister Fanny and brother Wilson to DeKalb County, Indiana, in 1855 and settled on the farm in Jackson Township, where the rest of his life was spent. He married Margaret McNabb and to them were born four children, John, Mary Ellen, Ebben, and James, all of whom are still living.

In September 1864 he joined Company A, 13th Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served till the close of the war and was honorably discharged, September 20, 1865.

He was of medium height, with a slight limp that showed itself only as he became tired. He lived to be 83 years 8 months and 26 days old and passed away March 7, 1914. His descendants number 15.

WILSON CARNAHAN was born in Pennsylvania, grew to manhood in Richland County, Ohio, and came with the family to Indiana in 1855. Here he married Julia Guilford. Four children were born to them, Abner, Andrew, Elizabeth, and Dudley. After his wife died he married Martha Davis and to them were born five daughters, Margaret, Julia, Romina, Rachel, and Gertrude.

* * * * *

N O T E S

This is a copy of a letter written by the second son of Thomas Carnahan to H. L. Carnahan. Spelling and language have not been changed. In the original, where two adjoining s's are in a word, the first is shown an f and the second one an s.

Olivesburg, Richland Co., Ohio.

April 16/60

Dear Friends: I take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you after a long Delay but I hope it will Come welcome yet. We are all well at present, as well as common. My own health is not improving any yet. Still I am able to go around and attend to my official Business. I have got another office this spring and I am going to Mansfield in the morning for my papers and then I will Commence Sessing on Thursday. That office will pay two Dollars per day and it will take me about 26 days to Do the Buisness up. I still live on John Houstons farm. Wee intend putting out about ten acres of corn this spring and that will keep boys fingers out of there Eyes for a while. I Cant stand one hour work. I am verry weak. The warm wether sets verry hard on me my strength all gon pretty mutch. I am so stout that I can't lift as mutch John Newton the boys will soon all be stouter than the old man if I dont get Better the prospect is dull now altho I may Ware it out after a while and it may ware me out yet but I must leave that in the hands of Providence. I must stop writing till get my Dinner for I have ben away all day and it is now three o'clock and the old wife had a visiter today so I will have to wate longer than I would. I will try and finish this letter on wensday I have not time to knight. Wednesday 18th I have not time to write mutch today for I must fix my papers redy for to go to work in the morning. But I will give you a little about the helth of our Country it is generally helthy this season verry little

sickness at all. Mrs. Tytler is lying yet no better than she was one year ago and she inquire of me every time that I am there when I herd from Mother and the rest of you. Now I would like to know if any of you are Comeing in this summer or fall to see us if you are write to me for I have a mind to take tramp after harvest if I live so long for the benifit of my helth and I dont want to be away if any of you come to see us. I must close my letter as I have not time to write any more but the next one I will give you a smasher if you will Excuse this one. This leves us as well as Common and I hope it will find Mother and you and your lady all enjoying the same Blessing.

This from your Effectionate

Brother

W. J. Carnahan

H.L. Carnahan

Write soon as you get this
for I am anctious to here from you.

Few possessions of Thomas Carnahan remain. Of these, my brother, Paul M. Carnahan, presently of 1912 53rd Street, Des Moines 10, Iowa, has the old four poster bed. To our knowledge it was used successively by Thomas Carnahan, H. L. Carnahan, E. T. Carnahan and Paul M. Carnahan. I have half a dozen German silver teaspoons that were given by his grandmother to my father to be handed down from father to son.

Paul Carnahan also has a little old cheese box that was great-grandmother's sugar box. Father was just a little boy during the last four years of her life spent at his home. Like a lot of other little Carnahans he liked sweets and when he had been a good boy, his grandmother would give him a little piece of maple sugar from this box.

To clothe her large family great-grandmother had learned to weave, and father remembered the loom standing in the cabin while she lived. The cloth was all wool, wool and linen, or all linen. The wool and flax was raised and processed locally. It was spun into thread for the loom on spinning wheels which were a part of every household. Homespun cloth competed with factory woven cloth for a few years after the Civil War.

Elizabeth Carnahan had a mind and a temper of her own, as any mother who has raised a large family has to have. At the time most of the families bought a bolt of muslin out of which they made shirts, underclothes and bed linens as required. Manufactured shirts and overalls were not on the market. To encourage industry in her daughters-in-law she said that she would haunt any of them that put one of her boys in a colored shirt. They had to have white shirts of this muslin all the time, a little hard to keep clean during some kinds of farm work. Most of the girls stood in such awe of her that they did not want her hanging around them after she died. I never saw my grandfather wearing any shirt but one of those white muslin kind.

Wilson was the baby of the family and quite spoiled but her Presbyterian Seceder conscience did not withhold the rod when he needed it. At about the age of eleven he ran away from a threatened licking and climbed a tree, sure that his mother could not climb a tree. She called one of the older children to bring the axe and set to work on the tree with the skill and determination of a beaver. As the tree started to totter, Wilson climbed down to the lower branches and begged for a chance to take his licking. He did not want to ride the butt of the tree when it fell. Finally she relented when he was thoroughly scared and let him come

down to his just deserts. What he got would have kept an ordinary boy good for a week.

A few days after he married his first wife, Wilson was over at his mother's house on a rainy morning. She was busy cooking breakfast, bending over the spiders and kettles at the fireplace, so he had great fun for a time pulling her around the cabin backwards by her apron strings. With a meal on the fire there was enough for her to do without having to put up with a lot of horseplay. When he pulled her past the loom she seized the rod that tightened the weave, a good steel rod. When she got a chance to twist sideways she swatted him good across the shoulders. Wilson calmed down immediately. That evening he had to ask his bride to help him off with his shirt; it was stuck to his back. One look at his back and she asked:

"What happened to you?"

"Mummy licked me."

"Good for you. You must have deserved it."

H. L. Carnahan once told me that when he came out to Indiana in 1855, he came to Ft. Wayne by canal boat on the old Wabash & Erie Canal. He stayed that night at a tavern. After an early breakfast the next morning he headed north for the home of his brother Samuel. As he crossed the bridge going north the sun was just coming up. He followed the road north. This was a dirt road with a lot of detours to avoid swamps and hills, and not the fine paved road we now have. Just as he was going in Samuel's cabin that evening the sun was going down. Walking was the way people had to get around then. Those who could not walk five miles in an evening to a party or dance were not social successes.

On 13 April 1955, at the Capitol, Harrisburg, Pa., from the Genealogical Section of the Public Library the following mentions of Thomas Carnahan were secured:

Penna. Archives 6th Series Volume VIII Page 184.

Pay roll of an infantry company commanded by Capt. John Collom (Collam) under command of Gen'l William H. Harrison in the Winter of 1812-13, 2d Brigade commanded by Gen. Crooks marched to the North Western Army, Commencing 2 Oct. 1812 and ending April 2, 1813:

Line 49 "Thos. Carnehan, Sergt. 6 months (Enlistment period) Discharged Nov. 7, 1812."

On the receipt Roll of the same company covering the extra pay from the state of Penna., also for volunteering to serve 15 days after expiration of 6 months,

"Thomas Carnahan, Discharged."

Penna Archives 6th Series Volume X Page 75.

Receipt Roll of company of militia commanded by Lt. Robert Davison 136th Regiment Penna. Militia commanded by Lt. Col. John Phillips under orders of Maj. Gen. Mead, Jan. 1, 1814 ending Feb. 6.

	Rank	Pay	Doll.	Time Served	Amt. of Pay	
			Mo.	Da.	Doll.	Cts.
"Thomas Carnahan	Priv.	10	1	5	11	66 2/3
"Robert Carnahan	Priv.	10	1	5	11	66 2/3"

Formerly Capt. Dickson's Co.

At the Division of Public Records, Historical and Museum Comm. of the same place, it was learned that these units were definitely from Erie Co. At the moment this is the earliest mention of our line of descent in public records. This is proof; everything else of this time and earlier is unproved tradition.

1912 53rd St.,
Des Moines 10, Iowa
November 10, 1956

Dear Cousins:

Thanks to the efforts of all of you I am able to give herewith the history of the H. L. Carnahan family, nearly up to date. Perhaps even now the stork is adding another paragraph.

In copying the dates and names several times it is possible that I have made some errors. If you find any, please correct your copy. I think it will be a good idea if you arrange to make notes of other events affecting the history, births, deaths, marriages, military service, etc. A large envelope can hold your notes and newspaper clippings of interest.

This history can be used as a reference work in tracing and establishing relationship and facts in legal matters. It shows where and what records to search to provide the original information. The various offices of Vital Statistics will know where to look for the data required for birth and death certificates. A knowledge of when and where people lived or owned land will disclose entries on the land and tax records concerning them. This may be of great help fifty years from now.

If you are interested in the kind of life the earlier members of the family lived, go to your public library and secure a history of Pennsylvania during the colonial times for general information and earlier histories of Dauphin and Erie counties in that state. The Pennsylvania Archives mention the family name quite often and any item in Dauphin Co. up to 1783 and Erie Co. thereafter up to 1830 might apply. Due to the lack of documents it is hard to tell now just what our line of descent is from early times. Many of the state's earlier documents are still to be published so you can never tell what will be discovered.

The idea of giving everyone a code symbol to show their relationship just grew, so you can add to it as the need arises. It is your family so keep what records you wish.

I have taken the liberty of writing rather fully of H. L. and less of his children. Conditions and customs are lost with the years unless mentioned. They lived their lives under contemporary circumstances; we have our own problems to face.

The best of luck to you.

Yours very truly,



Hugh L. Carnahan, 0122016
Colonel, Army of the United States, Retired.

FAMILY TREE

In order to identify the individuals of the family and trace them, each has been given a code identification. The sons of a descendant are given letters in the alphabetical order of their birth, the daughters numbers in their order. Thus each person's line of descent is traced in the code designation. As H. L. Carnahan was the sixth son of Thomas Carnahan, the farthest back we can be sure of at this time, he is given the letter F. The first date after a name is the date of birth, followed by place of birth; the last date is date of death followed by place of burial.

- F Hezekiah Lewis Carnahan (H. L.) July 11, 1830, Erie Co., Pa., Pvt. Co. A, 13th Ind. Vol. Inf. March 7, 1914. Evergreen Cemetery, Auburn, Ind., with his mother, Elizabeth Carnahan, Feb. 5, 1788-Mar. 8, 1864.
- Margret McNabb, Dec. 21, 1839, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind. Sept. 24, 1917. Evergreen Cemetery, Auburn, Ind.
 Children: FA, FI, FB, FC.
- FA William John Carnahan, (W. J.) May 13, 1860, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co. Ind. April 23, 1934, Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn, Ind.
- Ophelia May Hollopeter June 9, 1868, Cedar Creek Twp., Allen Co., Ind. April 9, 1945, Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn, Ind.
 Children: FAA, FAB.
- FI Mary Ellen Carnahan, (Mellie) March 11, 1862, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind. May 10, 1944. Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn, Ind.
- John D. Essig, April 24, 1854, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind. Oct. 12, 1912. Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn, Ind.
 Children: FI1, FI1, FI2.
- FB Ebben Thomas Carnahan (E. T.) Jan. 13, 1871, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind. Mar. 27, 1930, Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn, Ind.
- Ellen Gertrude Hollopeter, April 7, 1872, Cedar Creek Twp., Allen Co., Ind. July 2, 1949, IOOF Cemetery, New Haven, Ind.
 Children: FB1, FB2, FB3, FB4.
- FC James Colburn Carnahan, June 13, 1872, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind. Nov. 29, 1939, Cedar Chapel Cemetery, De Kalb Co., Ind.
- Alice M. C. Fredrickson, Aug. 1, 1872, Cedarville, Allen Co., Ind.
 Children: FC1, FCA.
- .AA Hugh Lloyd Carnahan (Hugh L.), Feb. 16, 1891, Butler Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind. ASN 1167519, 0122016, Colonel, Army of the United States, Retired. Bachelor.
- FAB Paul Manford Carnahan (Paul M.), Dec. 14, 1896, Butler Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind. ASN 0218942, Capt., Army of the United States, Retired.
- Mabel B. Teegarden, July 11, 1902, Emmet Co., Mich.
 Children: FAB1, FAB2.
- FAB1 Marjorie Bell Carnahan, July 24, 1929, Michigan City, Ind.
- Walter Wilson Wade, July 8, 1927, USN 9770477.
 Children: FAB11, FAB12.
- FAB11 Ann Elizabeth Wade, Aug. 26, 1953, Evanston, Illinois

FAB12 Katherine Marie Wade, Dec. 14, 1954, Waukegan, Illinois

FAB2 Carol Marie Carnahan, Dec. 19, 1930, Michigan City, Ind.
James Leland Rice, Jr., June 22, 1930, Ft. Dodge, Iowa. USA 55388243,
Specialist 3rd.

FLA William C. Essig, May 28, 1891, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
Matie Sisson, Aug. 21, 1889, Summit Co., Ohio.
Children: FLA1.

FLA1 Mildred Joan Essig, July 28, 1918, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
Wm. Edwards, Dec. 19, 1912, Jackson Co., Ky.
Children: FLA1A, FLA1B, FLA1C.

FLA1A John Steven Edwards, Mar. 14, 1939, Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind.

FLA1B Tommy Allen Edwards, April 3, 1942, Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind.

FLA1C William Michael Edwards, Oct. 23, 1945, Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind.

F11 Margret Ruth Essig, March 2, 1895, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
William Goings, July 27, 1892.
Children: F11A, F11B, F11C, F11D, F11E, F11I.

F11A Donald Leroy Goings, Feb. 21, 1918, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
1st Lt. Artillery ASN 35168556.
Nellie Lower, Jan. 8,
Children: F11A1, F11AA.

F11A1 Gloria Lee Goings, Sept. 1, 1943.

F11AA Robin Goings, May 9, 1948.

F11B James Dale Goings, Oct. 9, 1919, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
1st Lt. Air Corp. ASN 1508455.
Peggy Richardson
Children: F11BA, F11BB.

F11BA Douglas Goings, May 13, 1952

F11BB Craig Stuart Goings, Aug. 13, 1955.

F11C Fred Everett Goings, Nov. 18, 1924, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
Shirley Ann Koble, June 6, 1934.
Children: F11CA, F11CB, F11C1, F11C2.

F11CA David Eugene Goings, Nov. 18, 1943.

F11CB Fred Everett Goings, Jr., Feb. 12, 1948.

F11C1 Sue Ann Goings, Feb. 18, 1949.

F11C2 Beatrice Kay Goings, Sept. 26, 1955.

F11D Gerald Lawrence Goings, June 2, 1931, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
Army Band ASN 55219228 Sgt.

Betty Jane Ish, April 5, 1935.

F11E John William Goings, July 29, 1934, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
Cpl. Marine Corps 1325035.

F11I Ruthan Goings, March 2, 1940, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.

F12 Kate Essig, March 27, 1901, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.

Ralph Everett Clark, Aug. 10, 1899, Pvt. HS31734.
Children: F12I, F12A, F122.

F12I Faith Irene Clark, June 5, 1920, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

William Lee Richardson, June 16, 1911.
Children: F12I1, F12I2.

F12I1 Kathrine Lena Richardson, Sept. 27, 1942.

F12I2 Marcia Lynn Richardson, Dec. 16, 1944.

F12A Willard Everett Clark, July 16, 1925, Ft. Wayne Ind. Pfc. 520223
Marine Corps.

Marilyn Nichols, Feb. 20, 1930.
Children: F12AA, F12AB.

F12AA Gary Scott Clark, Dec. 31, 1951.

F12AB Matthew Lee Clark, Sept. 10, 1954.

F122 Mary Ellen Clark, Oct. 10, 1926, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Robert James McCurdy, Nov. 20, 1920. 1st Lt. ASN 17169379.
Children: F122I, F122A, F1222.

F122I Karen Lee McCurdy, Jan. 7, 1952.

F122A Robert Alexander McCurdy, Jan. 2, 1954.

F1222 Kathleen Louise McCurdy, Jan. 25, 1956.

FB1 Nellie Carnahan, April 17, 1899, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
Feb. 9, 1941 Interred Scipio Cemetery, (On #37 Between Ft. Wayne, Ind.,
and Hicksville, Ohio,

Chas. O. Cook, April 2, 1899.
Children: FB1A, FB1B, FB1I, FB1C, FB12, FB1D, FB13, FB14.

FB1A Wayne Edward Cook, Aug. 2, 1921

Colleen Harnish.
Children: FB1AA, FB1AB.

FB1AA Edward Allen Cook, Oct. 18, 1942.

FB1AB Ronald Wayne Cook, Dec. 10, 1944.

FB1B Donald Charles Cook, April 6, 1923. ASN 35558496.
 Eloise Hook.
 Children: FB1BA, FB1B1, FB1BB.

FB1BA William David Cook, Aug. 7, 1949.

FB1B1 Patricia Ann Cook, December 9, 1953.

FB1BB Dennis Duane Cook, Aug. 17, 1955.

FB11 Violet Rose Cook, November 30, 1924.
 John Harter.
 Children: FB111, FB11A, FB11B, FB11C, FB11D.

FB111 Johnette Rose Harter, April 25, 1944.

FB11A Charles Ray Harter, Sept. 3, 1945.

FB11B James Leland Harter, Jan. 10, 1947.

FB11C Richard Allen Harter, Sept. 5, 1948.

FB11D Michael Max Harter, Mar. 17, 1950.

FB1C Carl Russell Cook, Dec. 17, 1925 -- Mar. 17, 1945. Killed with the
 Marines and buried on Iwo Jima; body later removed to Hawaii.
 Joan Fortney.

FB12 Joyce Nellie Cook, Jan. 20, 1927.
 Wilbur O. Dishl, Coxswain USN 875-05-72.
 Children: FB12A, FB121, FB122.

FB12A Ralph Oren Dishl, Aug. 14, 1947.

FB121 Diana June Dishl, Sept. 15, 1949.

FB122 Pamela Kaye Dishl, Mar. 12, 1953.

FB1D David Frederick Cook, Oct. 18, 1928 -- June 20, 1946. Killed in auto
 accident. Buried in Scipio Cemetery.

FB13 Beverly Jean Cook, Oct. 24, 1932 -- Feb. 2, 1935. Died of double
 pneumonia, buried in Scipio Cemetery.

FB14 Mary Gertrude Cook, Sept. 20, 1934.
 Frederick DeWayne Petre, July 25, 1929. Cpl. 293 Inf. 38th Div. Co. I,
 ASN 23021120.
 Children: FB14A, FB14B, FB141.

FB14A Charles Frederick Petre, Dec. 5, 1951.

FB14B Terry De Wayne Petre, Oct. 8, 1953.

FB141 Beverly Louise Petre, Jan. 30, 1955.

FB2 Jessie Mabel Carnahan, April 26, 1901, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
Homer Dale Clark, Sr., Dec. 6, 1901, De Kalb Co., Ind.
Children: FB2A, FB2B, FB2C, FB21.

FB2A John Wesley Clark, Mar. 21, 1924, Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind. Naval Cadet
702-83-02 USNR AIL Ser. 383393 Lt.
Eva Mae Argubright, Aug. 15, 1925.
Children: FB2A1, FB2A2, FB2A3, FB2A4.

FB2A1 Janice Maureen Clark, Dec. 23, 1945, Garrett, De Kalb Co., Ind.

FB2A2 Alicia Ann Clark, Sept. 5, 1947, Terre Haute, Ind.

FB2A3 Carolyn Sue Clark, Mar. 6, 1950, Pekin, Ill.

FB2A4 Sharon Lee Clark, Jan. 19, 1952, Pekin, Ill.

FB2B Homer Dale Clark, Jr., April 20, 1927, Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind. Navy
SN 294-14-50.
Carol Ruth Carter, Dec. 22, 1927.
Children: FB2BA, FB2B1, FB2BB.

FB2BA Peter David Clark, Oct. 27, 1952, Peoria, Ill.

FB2B1 Lynne Elizabeth Clark, Dec. 17, 1953, Portland, Me.

FB2BB Daniel Allen Clark, May 15, 1955, Peoria, Ill.

FB2C Roland Royce Clark, June 19, 1928, Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind.
Geraldine Lucille Brown-Boren, Feb. 17, 1921.
Children: FB2CA.

FB2CA Jack Robert Clark, Sept. 17, 1954, Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind.

FB21 Betty Mae Clark, Mar. 9, 1930, Auburn, De Kalb Co., Ind.
John Edward Suthers, July 21, 1920.
Children: FB21A, FB21B.

FB21A Byron Dale Suthers, Jan. 10, 1951, Minneapolis, Minn.

FB21B Steven Kent Suthers, Feb. 26, 1955, Minneapolis, Minn.

FB3 Belle Carnahan, Sept. 29, 1903, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
Charles Carl Anderson, Sept. 22, 1900, Montevideo, Minn.

FB4 Bertha Faye Carnahan, Aug. 20, 1909, Jackson Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
Kenneth E. Nodine, Married June 29, 1933; divorced Dec. 12, 1944.
George Franklin Moore, April 9, 1887. Married April 9, 1948.

FC1 Eva Evangeline Carnahan, Nov. 5, 1896, De Kalb Co., Ind.
 Ross E. Berry, Sept. 20, 1890, Belmont Co., Ohio. C-16-286982. July 27, 1956.
 Children: FC11, FC1A, FC1B, FC1c, FC1D. (Cedar Chapel Cemetery, De Kalb Co., Ind.)

FC11 Ruth Irene Berry, Aug. 3, 1918, De Kalb Co., Ind.
 George Burdette Harter, June 28, 1913, Roberts Co., S. Dak.
 Children: FC 11A, FC111, FC112.

FC11A Joe Roger Harter, Feb. 16, 1941, Butler Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.

FC111 Rosanna Lee Harter, June 28, 1943, Butler Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.

FC112 Betty Ruth Harter, Jan. 17, 1945, Butler Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.

FC1A Winfred Lewis Berry, July 12, 1920, Butler Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
 ASN 3530297 80th Div. under Gen. Patton.
 Alice Reinohl, May 6, 1928, Ashley, De Kalb Co., Ind.
 Children: FC1AA, FC1AB, FC1AC.

FC1AA Michael Lewis Berry, Aug. 12, 1947, Waterloo, De Kalb Co., Ind.

FC1AB Donald Eugene Berry, Sept. 25, 1948, Waterloo, De Kalb Co., Ind.

FC1AC Ross Everett Berry, Mar. 24, 1953, Ashley, De Kalb Co., Ind.

FC1B Alva Harold Berry, Jan. 15, 1923, Butler Twp., DeKalb Co., Ind.
 USN 6265793 USS Arkansas.
 Joyce Elaine Weller, April 14, 1923, Ari, Noble Co., Ind.
 Children: FC1B1, FC1BA.

FC1B1 Cheryl Elaine Berry, June 10, 1947, Tri Lakes, Whitley Co., Ind.

FC1BA Norman James Berry, Aug. 11, 1951, Tri Lakes, Whitley Co., Ind.

FC1C Lynn C. Berry, Sept. 5, 1925, Butler Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind. USN 6272602
 USS Gannymede.
 Mabel Schaeffer Rothgeb, Springfield Twp., Allen Co., Ind.
 Children: FC1C1.

FC1C1 Ann Lynn Berry, Mar. 20, 1956, Garrett, De Kalb Co., Ind.

FC1D Argil James Berry, April 30, 1928, Butler Twp., De Kalb Co., Ind.
 Cpl. RA 16311098 Under Gen. Dean, Bronze Star.

FCA Harold Lawrence Carnahan, June 29, 1904, De Kalb Co., Ind.
 Edith E. James, July 31, 1909, Woodburn, Ind. Divorced.
 Children: First died, FCAA
 Mildred Closson, Aug. 23, 1911, New Haven, Allen Co., Ind.
 Children: FCAB, FCAC, FCAD.

FCAA Richard Gene Carnahan, Jan. 15, 1930, De Kalb Co., Ind. Cpl. AF 57211502.
 Alitza Arlene Goshorn, Feb. 10, 1930, Montpelier, Ohio.
 Children: FCAAA, FCAAL, FCAAB.

FCAAA Richard Gene Carnahan, Jr., Jan. 3, 1952, Lansing, Mich.
FCAAL Doris Ann Carnahan, June 18, 1953, Lansing, Mich.
FCAAB John Allen Carnahan, Aug. 28, 1955, Lansing, Mich.

FCAB Jerry Max Carnahan, July 1942, Ft. Wayne, Ind.
FCAC Joe Lawrence Carnahan, Aug. 1944, Angola, Steuben Co., Ind.
FCAD James Carnahan, Dec. 1947, Eluffton, Ind.

F: H. L. Carnahan

Hezekiah Lewis Carnahan, or H. L. as he preferred being known, was born July 11, 1830, in Erie County, Pa. A few years after this his parents moved to what was then Mercer Co., of that state but is now known as Lawrence Co., Pa. In 1835 they again moved to Richland Co., Ohio. It was from this home that in the fall of 1848 his father went with him on a load of wheat to Milan, Ohio, and from there walked to his relatives in Erie Co., Pa., for a visit. He was taken sick there and died March 6, 1849.

Little is known of the circumstances of the family at this time, but it is likely that they were farmers raising their own living from the land. Whether they owned their own land or were tenant farmers has not been determined.

He once told me of bumming a ride on one of the first railroads in the Sandusky area. This was before steel rails were available. Ties were laid down, timbers spiked to them and wagon tires spiked on top to take up the wear of the iron wheels. In use the spikes holding the tires worked loose and the tires rolled up. When this was encountered, the engineer or fireman would go forward with hammers and drive the spikes down again before pulling the train over this section. No great speed was ever attempted on these early roads, but to country boys it was much faster than a wagon pulled by horses.

In 1854 Samuel and Bailey Carnahan moved out to Jackson Township, De Kalb Co., Indiana. In 1855 the widowed mother, H. L., Wilson, Fanny, and probably Elizabeth, joined them. H. L. once related to me that he came out to Ft. Wayne on a canal boat on the old Wabash & Erie Canal. He did not say that any of the others were with him at the time, but they were soon established around School District No. 9 in Jackson Township.

After working around for the local farmers for a short time H. L. purchased the west half of the southeast quarter of the section west of No. 9, across the road from his brother Samuel's farm. Later Wilson occupied land to the east of his farm, and Bailey owned land to the north of the school house. His widow, Mary Ann, lived there until the time of her death.

I doubt if a picture or even a sketch of the original cabin ever existed. According to my father, it was close to the road and the western boundary of the farm. It was a log cabin, one room on the ground floor, with a sleeping loft above. When it snowed in the winter, the snow would sift through the clapboard roof so that the mice tracks in it were plainly visible in the early morning light. As was the custom where stone or brick were not immediately available, the fireplace was of wood heavily plastered with clay. The chimney was of the same construction. During times when a good fire was burning it required frequent inspections to see that the wood did not catch fire. It is likely that this was later replaced by a brick or stone fireplace and chimney. At least a lean-to kitchen was added with the stove pipe sticking up through the roof.

In clearing the farm for crops most of the work was done with the ax. The trees were felled, cut into logs, rolled together and burned. There was no market for the logs and the family had to be fed. In the early years H. L. had a yoke of oxen to do the heavy work of getting the logs together. Oxen were better than horses, for they did not get excited, pulled steadily, and when the day's work was done could be turned loose to forage for themselves.

A cherished daguerreotype of Margret McNabb about the time she became Mrs. Carnahan, showed her a very pretty girl with long brown hair. It was the family tradition that she was the first white child born in Jackson Township. Her family had settled along an old Indian trail and many times the Indians stopped there for water or something to eat. Among her memories was the sight of the legendary Johnny Appleseed stopping at their clearing. At the time he was wearing only one shoe and carrying the other. It seemed that one foot had stepped on a toad, and he was punishing it by making it go barefoot.

In 1860 H.L.'s mother came to live with them until March 8, 1864, when she died. That fall he was drafted for the Civil War. He provided for his family by leaving enough wheat for a year's use piled in one corner of the cabin. At that time families took their own wheat to the mill, brought back the flour ground from it for their bread.

H. L. was assigned to Company A, Capt. Silas Clark's Company, 13th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. The regiment had been badly shot up at Shiloh and had suffered in later engagements, so it was now filled out with drafted men and men from short term regiments whose enlistments had expired. Most of the veterans were given Spencer 7-shot carbines, but grandfather carried a Springfield rifle. He was a willing soldier but the hard life and the monotonous ration of coffee, sugar, hard tack, salt pork, and beans was too much for him. Like many others he acquired the dread camp dysentery, which was to plague him in after years.

The only battle he participated in was the reduction of Ft. Fisher. This fort protected Wilmington, N. C., the last port open to the southern blockade runners. He was sick when the troops went ashore, but he helped dig a trench in the sand with his mess kit, then lay down in it. He was removed to a hospital ship and later to a land hospital.

After some time in this hospital he was well enough to travel, the war was over and he was given an honorable discharge from the hospital at Goldsboro, N. C. This discharge is now in my possession and shows a service of 350 days. In September he came home to his family.

He was never able to do a good day's work afterward. With a family to support and a farm to clear this was a handicap but they managed to make a go of it and pay for the farm. It called for frugality, hard work, good management and the saving of all their resources. Money was scarce, and hard to obtain, so people had to raise what they wanted or do without.

Father's first term of school at No. 9, probably 1866-7, was the last year the old log school was used. This was heated by a fireplace, had puncheons with auger holes bored in them and fitted with stakes for seats. Slates were used for writing and figuring.

In 1875 the barn was built that still stands. This took a long preparation of hewing the beams from the trees on the farm with a broadax, hauling logs to the mill for planks and boards, gathering stone from the fields for the walls and scraping up the dirt for the driveway leading to the upper floor.

When the little boys were about ten years or so old, they were gathered in the kitchen of the old cabin with father and H. L. one rainy morning when grandmother and Mellie were out milking. The thunder and lightning was quite heavy. One bolt struck the stove pipe protruding through the roof and went through the three boys to the ground. All of them were more or less burned and it was six weeks before they were fully recovered. Their cowhide boots, torn to shreds hung in the old shop for years.

The frame house that replaced the old cabin was typical of those constructed after the Civil War. The lumber came from the farm, one large sycamore tree furnishing all the siding. It had high ceilings, wainscoting and some of the ornaments common to frame houses of the period. The kitchen and woodshed were separate from the house, connected by a porch. The cellar extended under all of the house, with a cistern under the kitchen. An ice house adjoined the woodshed. After the crowded cabin this was a palace indeed. It was heated by large wood-burning stoves. In the living room H. L.'s favorite rocker sat in front of the large stove, so he could look out the windows to the road and down to the barn. The large woodbox alongside his chair made a handy place to put his feet.

With the addition of a granary-wagon shed-cornercrib, chicken coop, and repair shop the farm was now well equipped with buildings. Constant clearing and tiling,

with careful farming, and stock raising made it quite productive. While H. L. could not do the work he saw to it that there was no lost motion, and that all effort was profitably applied. When harvested the hay crop went into the mows of the barn; the wheat and other grains went on top of the hay. Several times the mows, half the floor and the part over this half were filled so that some of the oats had to be stacked outside. When the threshers came they knew they were in for a day or two of steady threshing, and that nothing but a heavy rain would stop them.

H. L. and his brothers, James, Samuel, and Wilson always wore long beards, while Abner, John and Bailey, are shown in their pictures as wearing chin whiskers in the best Horace Greeley tradition. His appetite was poor, although his wife was always preparing something to tempt him. In the 23 years I knew him he was always slight of build. He did not hunt or fish, but saw to it that the boys had plenty of time at these sports. All his thoughts and energies were devoted to the management of his farm. He had plenty of time for reading and was always interested in everything that was going on.

When the De Kalb County Farmers Mutual Insurance Company was started he was one of the original members. This was a risky venture for the first few, but losses were light for a few years and others joined rapidly so that it became a going concern.

His sons and daughter married and moved away, except Ebben and his family remained to care for the old folks and work the farm. H. L. and Margret celebrated their Golden Wedding with a quiet family affair in the house they had built, on the farm on which they had lived all their married life. He was quite feeble in his later years, dying March 7, 1914.

His three sons and three of his grandsons acted as pallbearers. As we bore him away, we realized this was the end of a long life well lived. He had attained the ambition of many Scotch Irish people of his time, for he had lived most of his life on his own land and was being carried out from his own house.

His wife survived him only a short time, dying in 1917. She, H. L., and his mother are buried on the family lot in Evergreen Cemetery, at Auburn, Indiana.

FA: W. J. Carnahan

W. J. Carnahan, the eldest child of H. L. Carnahan, was born May 13, 1860, in Jackson Township, De Kalb Co., Indiana. Here he grew up on his father's farm, attended the district school and learned the rudiments of several trades. For several years he followed the carpenter's trade in the country around his home, acting as a contractor most of the time. He was a fair blacksmith, repairing much of the machinery used on the farm. In the winter he repaired the shoes of the family. His interest in things mechanical led him to build a telephone line from his home to that of the nearest neighbor.

In August 1889 he married Ophelia May Hallowpeter, the eldest daughter of Capt. W. C. Hallowpeter of near Leo in Allen County. They moved to the farm of his father, the south half of the northwest quarter of Sec. 36, Eutler Township, De Kalb Co. He was later to purchase this farm and live here until his death, April 22, 1934.

About two years after the birth of his first son, Hugh Lloyd, both of them had the measles at the same time. W. J. suffered a relapse from which he never fully recovered. From a picture of health, six feet in his socks and weighing around 200 pounds, he shrank in weight and bowed down as rheumatism was added to his affliction. A second son, Paul Manford, was born in 1896.

Only about a third of his farm had been cleared when he moved on it and the

rest had to be cleared and fenced. A large portion of this woodland was the swamp bottom of an old beaver pond. It was muck with peat moss below it, that could be cut with a spade like turf in Ireland. All of this had to be ditched and tile put in to drain the low places. Through the back part of the place ran the divide between the St. Joe River and Cedar Creek. It was so situated that it drained into the watersheds of three county ditches. Life was just one ditch after another.

W. J. was a great reader and kept a small but well assorted library. He served one term as township trustee and one as township assessor, as well as superintendent of construction on several county ditches. Before his marriage he united with the Mt. Olivet M. E. Church and gave liberally of his time to this church.

As he became too feeble to handle the farming operations, he rented out his fields and devoted his time to his bees, chickens and turkeys. In his later years he suffered from stomach ulcers and later cancer, which killed him.

His wife survived him eleven years, dying April 9, 1945. Both rest in the mausoleum at Auburn, Indiana.

Fl: Mary Ellen Carnahan

Mary Ellen Carnahan, the only daughter of H. L. Carnahan, was born in Jackson Township, De Kalb Co., Indiana, March 11, 1862. She grew up on the home farm assisting her mother with the farm work.

She attended the home school and later taught several terms of district school. She was early afflicted with sick headaches which were to trouble her all her life.

She married John D. Essig, the son of another early pioneer, and went to live with him on the family homestead near the center of Jackson Township. To them were born three children, William C., Margret Ruth, and Kate.

She lived the usual busy life of a farmer's wife with a family of growing children. Her husband died in 1912. Her son took over the management of the homestead. Her daughters married and moved away, leaving her in the house to which she had moved when married, with William living in the old family home.

After some years she suffered a stroke that slowed down her physical activities but not her mind and interest in other things. Her last few years were spent with her daughter Kate in Ft. Wayne. She died May 10, 1944.

She had considerable ability as a composer of verse and many examples of her work are cherished by her family.

FB: E. T. Carnahan

E. T. Carnahan, the second son of H. L. Carnahan, was born January 13, 1871, on his father's farm in Jackson Township. He never had occasion to move from this farm, residing here until his death March 27, 1930.

He grew up like any other farm boy of the time, attended the district school and later taught school for a number of years, spending the summers working on the farm. He married Ellen Gertrude Hollopeter a sister of his brother John's wife.

The Hollopeter homestead was about two miles south of the Allen-DeKalb Co. line in Cedar Creek Township. It was a large family of four sons and four daughters that reached maturity. The father, Capt. W. C. Hollopeter, was active and well known in local affairs in the township and Allen County.

To Ebben and Gertrude were born four daughters, Nellie, Jessie, Belle, and Faye.

The care of his parents and the affairs of the home farm did not occupy all of his time for he first purchased the eighty acre farm south of W. J. Carnahan and after selling this purchased the like tract of land to the north of his brother. On the death of his parents he purchased the home farm from the other heirs.

He read widely, was interested in all the local affairs and developments in farming. He always enjoyed hunting and knew the hills and woods around his home as well as their owners did.

One characteristic of his personal appearance was a large straw colored mustache. This was also the mark of his brothers, W. J. and Jim as well as several of his cousins. To my knowledge it was worn by Milt son of Bailey D., Marion son of William John, and Abner son of Wilson S.

When his health began to fail he soon passed away, and rests in the mausoleum at Auburn, Indiana.

His widow married Clement Evard, a farmer who lived near New Haven, Indiana. After some years she was taken sick with an illness that lasted for some months. She died at the home of her daughter, Faye, in Bryan, Ohio, July 2, 1943, and is buried in the IOOF Cemetery at New Haven.

FC: James Colburn Carnahan

The youngest son of H. L. was born June 13, 1872, on the home place where he grew to manhood. He early learned to enjoy the pleasures of hunting and fishing which were the principal sports of country boys at the time. Before the woods were cut off they sheltered the remnant of the original game population and offered hunting that will never be seen again.

Jim learned the carpenter trade as practiced at the time and followed it off and on for some years. He married Alice M. C. Frederickson and began farming to better support his family. Two children were born to them, Eva and Harold.

As long as his strength would allow he rented some of the larger farms of that locality, later purchasing a farm bordering on Cedar Creek, Butler Township, De Kalb Co., east of Cedar Chapel. This remained his home until his death Nov. 29, 1939.

He is buried in the Cedar Chapel Cemetery close to his last home.

Jim, his brothers Ebben and John, along with their uncle Wilson, were country fiddlers. Before television, radio, or the wheezy phonograph, winter evenings were long and dull. Anyone who could enliven a country gathering with a few old dance tunes was a welcome addition to the party. No one ever made a fortune at it, but they did get a lot of fun out of playing for these affairs which were not always approved by the good pillars of the church.

July, 1959

C A R N A H A N N O T E S

INTRODUCTION

The Carnahans are scattered all over the country. A glance at the telephone directory of nearly any large city will show a few of them. Usually they are not in large groups but are representative of the community in which they are found. In talking with some of these we were seldom able to establish a relationship. Strangers have inquired as to my home and have told me they have known others of the name. Few people can trace their family further back than their grandparents.

In 1954 an investigation in the Genealogical Section of the Newberry Library, about 900 North Clark Street, Chicago, showed that there were a large number of the name in Pennsylvania from Colonial Times on to the present. The Genealogical Section of the Pennsylvania State Library, at Harrisburg, yielded much more information. The following genealogists have assisted in their respective provinces:

Mr. M. Luther Heisey, 237 North Lime St., Lancaster, Pa., a specialist in Lancaster County Genealogy.

Mrs. Wilson R. Durham, 1419 Hart Road, R. D. #8, Erie, Pa. She is a member of the Erie Co. Pa. Chapter, D. A. R., and quite familiar with the early records of Erie Co.

Mr. Harold K. Trout, 130 S. Front St., Wormleysburg, Pa. He has been a trained investigator for the state of Pennsylvania, is employed in the capitol across the river from his home, and quite familiar with the state records available there.

Pennsylvania has gone through its earlier records in storage and printed many of them in the Pennsylvania Archives Series which are available in the Genealogical Section of large Public Libraries in many of the big cities. Early county histories, public records, newspaper files of early years, old books and like printed matter furnish valuable information of the family and the period.

A search of these early records shows the lack of education at the time. Few people could read or write. When it was necessary to enter the name on any document, the man pronounced it as best he could, and the clerk wrote it down as it sounded to him. The result is a variety of spellings, the most of whom are covered by the possibilities shown below. There are a few others that may have been used.

Possible spellings: First Letter, C or K
First Vowel, a,e,i,o.
Second Consonant, rn.
Second Vowel, a,e,i,o, ae,au.
Third Consonant, g, gh, h, ch, th.
Last Vowel, a,e,i,o.
Last Letter, n.

Over the years many of the early names for places and cities have been changed so this has to be taken into consideration in searching old records. When the land was being settled a county would be formed as soon as the population warranted it. As the population increased it would be subdivided into other counties. Counties in which the early Carnahan settlers were numerous are:

Lancaster Co. formed May 10, 1729 from part of Chester County.
Cumberland Co. formed Jan. 27, 1750 from part of Lancaster County.
Bedford Co. formed March 9, 1771 from part of Cumberland County.
Westmoreland Co. formed Feb. 26, 1773 from part of Bedford County and in 1785 part of the purchase of 1784 added thereto.
Dauphin Co. formed Mar. 4, 1785 from part of Lancaster County.
Allegheny Co. formed Sept. 24, 1788 from part of Westmoreland County and Washington County.
Erie Co. formed Mar. 12, 1800 from part of Allegheny County.

Much of the land of this state is unfit for farming or private use. It is still in public domain. When a settler wanted to purchase a parcel of land he first secured from the authorities a Warranty of Land, which called upon the local surveyor to survey for him a satisfactory tract of land and make return of it to the colonial authorities. When all requirements as to purchase had been completed a patent was issued to the settler and recorded in the county seat. After that all transfers of this tract were recorded at the county court house. Warranties of Land, and after the Revolutionary War, Surveys of Land, are recorded in Pa. Archives Series 3. They are now recorded at the Land Office, Department of Internal Affairs, Harrisburg, Pa., as a part of the public records. Three of the earliest of these bearing the family name in Lancaster County are listed below:

James Carnaghan, Sadusbury, Twp., 140 acres, date of warrant Aug. 13, 1746.

Thomas Carnahan, Mt. Pleasant Twp., on Conewago Creek, 100 acres, date of warrant May 11, 1748.

Joseph and William Carnahan, Leacock Twp., 340 acres, date of warrant Oct. 8, 1750.

These are still in the present boundaries of Lancaster County.

ORIGIN

After several years of research I am of the opinion that:

1. The family originated in Ireland.
2. Economical, religious, political, and personal crisis compelled them to move to other places.
3. A large number of them sought refuge in Scotland from 1558 to 1760 and later.
4. Our family is one of many branches.
5. Starting in the early decades of the eighteenth century many of all groups began settling in Pennsylvania, New York, Canada, Ohio, and Tennessee, from which they have spread all over the country.

Below are excerpts from printed works which bear on the subject.

John Rooney's *Genealogical History of Irish Families*, P 410, the Kernahan Family (Crest 11, Plate 3)

"The Kernahan family is descended from Milesius, King of Spain, through the line of his son Hermon. The founder of the family was Brian, son of Eacha May Veagon, King of Ireland, A. D. 350. The ancient name was Cairmseachain, which signifies 'The Peacemaker.' The possessions of the sept were located in the present counties of Sligo and Donegal."

Venango County, Pennsylvania, *Her Pioneers and Her People*, Vol. II, Page 760, Published by J. H. Beers & Company, Chicago, Illinois, 1919.

"BUCHANAN H. CARNAHAN - is now living in retirement after a long and honorable association with business and official circles in Oil City where he was prominent in the administration of local government for almost a quarter century, receiving the highest honors within the gift of his fellow citizens. He proved himself deserving of the confidence which they manifested, showing a keen sense of responsibility in all his public services and broad ideas regarding their obligations which have helped to elevate municipal standards in many respects. A resident of Oil City from about 1865, he is a member of an old family of this section of Pennsylvania, established in Mercer County over a century ago, and of early Irish origin, though living in Scotland when the first ancestor of this branch in America came over the Atlantic.

"The first authentic knowledge of the family dates back to 1540, when three Irish tribes or clans named Carnochan, Carnaghan and Carnathan, respectively, entered into an agreement to unite for their mutual protection. According to tradition they had previously lived as most tribes of the times, preying on their weaker neighbors and levying tribute in lands, cattle and servants. Their habitation was on the rough and stormy coast of the north of Ireland, and the wreckage of vessels

driven ashore formed one of their chief sources of revenue; they were even accused of luring boats ashore by means of false lights. It is said that when these tribes had no common foe they fought each other, greatly diminishing their numbers by these perpetual feuds. When the great religious reformation spread over Ireland, they embraced the Calvinistic faith, uniting in 1540 under the leadership of James Alexander Carnahan, and they defended their belief with the same vigor, that they had prosecuted their earlier enterprises, having numerous pitched battles with the soldiers of Mary Tudor (1553-1558). In the last year of her reign their chief was slain and the clan was almost exterminated, their goods and lands being confiscated to the crown, and many suffering imprisonment or death. Of those who took refuge in Scotland, one group settling in Dumfries, the other in Aberdeen. The former branch became weavers by occupation the latter hewers of stone or stonemasons, owning and working large quarries. They became people of some importance, one John Andrew Carnahan being a delegate to the convention in France from which resulted the celebrated Edict of Nantes, promulgated in 1598.

"From this time little is known of the family up to 1709, in which year James Alexander Carnahan was born in Aberdeen, Scotland. It is supposed that he was the direct ancestor of the Carnahans here under consideration. He is reputed to have been a man of powerful build, standing six feet four inches in his bare feet and weighing about two hundred and fifty pounds, of dark swarthy complexion, self-esteemed, and very decided in his religious views. He had fourteen sons and five daughters, the sons James, Hugh and John emigrating to America and their families between 1760 and 1770 and settling in the Cumberland Valley at Carlisle, Penna. There is little doubt that Adam Carnahan, grandfather of Buchanan H. Carnahan, was descended from one of these three brothers."

Historical Collections of Harrison County in the State of Ohio, By Charles A. Hanna, 1900, P 7.

"From the counties of Wigtonshire and Kirkcudbrightshire (once forming the ancient principality of Galloway and from whence come the Galloway cattle) beside the McCullochs and the McClellans, came also the Agnews, Boyles, Douglasses, Carnahans, Carsons, Glendennings, Gordons, Hannas, Herrons, Kerrs, McCreas, McBrides, McMaths, McWychens, McWilliams, Maxwells, Ramseys, Stewarts and others."

P 140. "We find from the records of Harrison County that Lots Numbered 58, 59 and 60 in the town of Cadiz (the present residence of Mr. A. H. Carnahan) were deeded on April 16, 1812 to 'John McFadden, Samuel Carnahan, John Craig, William Hamilton, and John Jamison, trustees appointed by the Associated Reformed congregation of Cadiz,' for the purpose of a meeting-house for public worship." The book also contains numerous mentions of land purchases, wills, marriages, deaths, etc., concerning this branch of the family from 1806 on.

GENERAL

Below are given some of the items of general interest about the family. They are representative but not all the data discovered by any means.

From the Land Office at Harrisburg:

Wm. Carnahan, (In Pa. Archives Third Series, Vol. 3, page 625, given William Carnaghan Pvt., 1st Penna, Regmt. 200 acres) Private, obtained 200 acres in District #10, Donation Lands, north and west of the Allegheny River, dated Sept. 25, 1787 and located in Westmoreland County. Survey is copied on page 86 of Book C-199.

This is Tract 2063 now in Erie Co., just north of Corry.

"The Mirror" Vol. 1, No. 15, Sept. 3, 1808 on file in the Erie Public Museum, A Sheriff's Sale covering unseated lands situated in the county to defray arrearages of road and county taxes, costs, etc., for the years 1804, 1805, 1806, and 1807, contains under Donation Lands - Tenth District that of William Carnahan, Tract 2063 \$2.50.

The same Pa. Archives reference mentioned above also gives, James Carnaghan, Capt., 2nd Inf., 500 acres. These are the only Carnahans 30 persons.

mentioned in this list of those veterans of the Revolutionary War receiving donation lands from the state for their services.

Boucher's History of Westmoreland Co., Vol. 1, page 159 gives the following: "James Carnahan was a Lieutenant in Capt. James Erwin's Company of the Penna. Rifle Regiment. He was subsequently at various times a Captain in the 2nd, 8th and 13th Penna. Regiments Continental Line. He served from March 1776 to 1781 and was accidentally drowned in the Allegheny River in 1786. His father was John Carnahan, one of the early settlers of Bell Township where he built a log house in 1774. "James Carnahan was the father of Dr. James Carnahan, President of Princeton 1831 to 1853."

From old records, Londonderry Twp., Lancaster Co., Penna. (Later became Dauphin Co.) 1779 - James Karnaghan - weaver.

Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, page 332 Vol. II.

"Carnahan's Blockhouse -- Mention is frequently made of Carnahan's Blockhouse especially during the latter part of the Revolution, although it was in existence much earlier. This blockhouse was erected on the land of Adam Carnahan, and the tract of land is now known as the William McCauley farm, from the name of its owner, in Bell Township, a short distance northeast of Perryville, about two miles from the Kiskiminetas River. This point was near eleven miles northwest of Hannastown. Not far from this locality is the place known as Old Town, otherwise Kiskiminetas Old Town, in ancient times an Indian village." Page 335 of Frontier Forts - John Carnahan (said by the Carnahan family to have been a brother of James Carnahan and both sons of Adam Carnahan) "was killed just outside the blockhouse, and was buried not more than twenty rods from there, and the spot of ground has never been broken. The ground where he is buried is surrounded by timber."

More on the fort and the details of the fighting are given in the book.

At the Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown, N. J., in May 1952, I saw a framed muster roll of Gen. Washington's Household Troops for August 1, 1782. Under "Privates" was "No. 17 William Karnahin." Only one name given each enlisted man, no initials, each had one name fully spelled out.

From Colonial Records Vo. 10, Page 212 Memorandum 13th Oct. 1774. "The return of Sheriffs for Westmoreland Co. being now made, the Governor was pleased to commissionate the following: John Carnaghan. At a council held in Philadelphia 28 October 1775 again appointed Sheriff for Westmoreland Co." In the same Vol. Page 235, Sheriff's Deposition sworn and subscribed before Robert Hanna 8th of February 1775.

From a History of Allegheny County: "George B. and Robert S. Carnahan. Their father and the original pioneer was David Carnahan, born near Shane's Castle, County of Antrim, Ireland, of Scotch descent. He was lowland Scotch on his father's side and Highland Scotch on his mother's side. He arrived in Pennsylvania in 1770 or earlier. During the Revolutionary War he was an officer in the light or 'flying artillery' of the American Army, present at Brandywine and other engagements. He had an older brother James who was a midshipman in the British Navy. Tradition has it that the brothers were once allowed to meet during the war, after proper permission had been secured from an American and a British officer. He lived near Carlisle, Pa."

The numerous mentions of the family name in the records and writings of the Pennsylvania area during the period 1700-1800 show that the family was quite large, old, and had come from various areas in the British Isles. The refugees who escaped Ireland by going to Dumfries and Aberdeen lived with and intermarried among the Scotch for two centuries. We always considered ourselves Scotch. I have talked with Catholic Carnahans. Perhaps those that could not escape Ireland in 1558 reverted to the Catholic religion or some now unknown branch of the Kernahan family is their origin.

THOMAS CARNAHAN 1783-1849. In August 1914 my father, W. J. Carnahan (1860-1934) wrote up a family history as remembered by his father

Hezekiah Lewis Carnahan (1830-1914). It is here given as originally written.

"JOHN CARNAHAN was a Scotsman by birth, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was present at the Battle of Brandywine, where the soldiers crossed that turbulent little river on the bodies of the slain; the water was stained with blood for five miles. He served under General Washington during the entire war and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

His wife, whose given name was Fanny, is thought to have been Irish, but of her nothing definite is known. He moved to Erie County, Pennsylvania, in 1783 and died some time between 1800 and 1809.

He was an expert woodsman, being able to travel for days at a time with unerring certainty through the trackless forests of his day.

His children were, William, Robert, Thomas, Francis, Elizabeth and Catherine. We know nothing of the children except Thomas, who is the founder of our branch of the family.

"THOMAS CARNAHAN, son of John and Fanny Carnahan, was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania in 1783; moved with his parents the same year to Erie County. In 1809 he married Elizabeth Smith and a few years afterward moved to Mercer, now Lawrence County, Pennsylvania.

He was a soldier under General Harrison during the War of 1812, was taken sick at Fort Defiance, Ohio, but afterward returned to the army and was honorably discharged.

He was a man rather under the medium height, with powerful shoulders and arms and small hands and feet, was very quick and active. At the age of 65, his last harvest, he cut with a sickle and bound 30 dozen sheaves of wheat per day, working steadily the entire harvest.

In 1835 he moved to Richland County, Ohio. In the fall of 1848, he started to Erie County, Pennsylvania, on a visit. He rode with his son Hezekiah, then a boy of 17, on a load of wheat to Milan and made the rest of the journey on foot. He was taken sick while there and died March 6, 1849, and is buried somewhere in Erie County, Pennsylvania.

"ELIZABETH SMITH, wife of Thomas Carnahan, was born in Ireland and came to this country when about eleven years old. In 1856 she came with Hezekiah, Wilson and Fanny to De Kalb County, Indiana. She died at the residence of her son Hezekiah, March 8, 1864 and is buried in the Evergreen Cemetery at Auburn, Indiana.

In religion Thomas Carnahan and his wife belonged to that very strict sect, known locally at that time as Seceders. Their children are Abner, William John, Bailey D., Fanny, Samuel S., Elizabeth, James M., Hezekiah L., and Wilson S.

"Abner, the eldest son of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan, spent the greater portion of his life near Lockville in Wyoming County, Pennsylvania. He married Polly Rany and settled on the old Rany Homestead. No children were born to them, but they raised one foster child, Lydia Rany, who afterward married Scott Carnahan. These young people stayed with and cared for the old people as long as they lived and spent their own lifetime on the old farm. Abner Carnahan was a farmer of the better class and was also gifted with considerable mechanical skill, doing largely his own work of that nature.

"WILLIAM JOHN, the second son of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan spent the greater portion of his life in Ashland and Richland Counties of Ohio. He married Rachel Nelson and died March 9, 1861, leaving four children, Scott, Romina, afterwards Mrs. Christ Ward, John N. and Marion O.

He was of rather short stature and like his father had very heavy shoulders and in his young manhood was very quick and active; he was a great reader and student, and held several offices of trust and profit in the township and county of his residence. His descendants -- children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, living and dead are 30 persons.

"BAILEY D., third son of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan, married for his first wife Eliza Nelson. To them were born six children, Emma Miranda Ann, Eliza, Electa, Milton and Abner. He came to DeKalb County, Indiana, in 1854, where his wife died. He later married Mary Ann McNabb; no children were born to this union.

In his young manhood he was a very good tight barrel cooper. I was told that at one time with nothing but his axe, draw-shave and chime cutter he converted an oak tree into a porkbarrel.

He was of medium height, strongly built and before old age claimed him he was considered one of the champion grain cradlers of his day. It is said that one time he cut five acres of oats in half a day, with an old turkey-wing cradle.

He was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, April 6, 1816, and died March 8, 1889 and is buried in the Cedar Chapel Cemetery, De Kalb County, Indiana. His descendants number 68 persons.

"FANNY, the fourth child of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan, was born in Pennsylvania, came with the family to Richland County, Ohio, in 1835. In 1855 she came to Indiana with her mother and two brothers, Hezekiah and Wilson. Here she married Wm. McNabb. One child, a daughter, Mary, was born to them. Mary married John C. Bailey.

After the death of her husband, she made her home with her brother, Hezekiah, where she died February 16, 1887 and is buried in the cemetery at Leo. Her descendants number 10.

"SAMUEL SMITH CARNAHAN was born in Pennsylvania, August 15, 1824; came to Ohio in 1835, where he grew to manhood and married Elizabeth Holsten. In 1854 they moved to De Kalb County, Indiana, and settled on the farm where he died March 2, 1886. At his request he was buried on the farm under an apple tree, but a year later was removed to the Evergreen Cemetery, at Auburn, Indiana, where he now rests.

In early manhood he learned the cobbler's trade, mastering it without a teacher. For a long time he made the boots and shoes for the family and for others. Many a time the writer has watched him as he plied his trade before the blazing fireplace. As age came upon him he received a stroke of paralysis, from which he never recovered and in a few years passed away, leaving seven children, Ellen, James, John, Malinda, Riley, Ada, and Perry, the oldest child, William, having died in infancy. His descendants number 51.

"ELIZABETH was married three times, the first time to Gordon Hazen, Three children were born to them, Henry, Hiram and Jane. Henry married but died without issue. Hiram died in early manhood. Jane married O.K. Ingersol of Auburn. Elizabeth married Dr. Crandal Morgan, but no children were born to them. She afterward married Abraham Scott. She died at their home in Butler, Indiana. Her descendants number 5.

"JAMES M. CARNAHAN was born in Pennsylvania and grew to manhood in Richland County, Ohio, where he married Lucinda Lighthill. In 1852 they moved to Paulding County, Ohio, where together they met the hardships of pioneer life which the levelness of the country made doubly hard. A little anecdote related to the writer will illustrate this.

One day in early spring, while on his way to Sharloe, he saw one of his neighbors wading around in the yard, which was covered with water, and feeling ahead of him with a stick. On being asked what he was doing, he said he was trying to find the well, that his folks did not like wild water.

Today Paulding County is one of the banner counties of the state, but it has won out a generation of sturdy pioneers.

James Carnahan is tall, with heavy shoulders and is very active. At the age of 86 he walked with as much activity as any of his children. He is at this writing the only one of the third generation living. His children are, Polly, Wilson, Jesse, Martha, John, Issac, Almedia, and Jemina. The total number of his descendants are 98 in all.

"HEZEKIAH L. CARNAHAN was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, July 11, 1830. He came with the family to Richland County, Ohio in 1835; he moved with his mother, sister Fanny, and brother Wilson to De Kalb County, Indiana, in 1855 and settled on the farm in Jackson Township, where the rest of his life was spent. He married Margaret McNabb and to them were born four children, John, Mary Ellen, Ebben, and James, all of whom are still living.

In September 1864 he joined Company A, 13th Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served till the close of the war and was honorably discharged, September 20, 1865.

He was of medium height, with a slight limp that showed itself only as he became tired. He lived to be 83 years 8 months and 26 days old and passed away March 7, 1914. His descendants number 15.

"WILSON CARNAHAN was born in Pennsylvania, grew to manhood in Richland County, Ohio, and came with the family to Indiana in 1855. Here he married Julia Guilford. Four children were born to them, Abner, Andrew, Elizabeth, and Dudley. After his wife died he married Martha Davis and to them were born five daughters, Margaret, Julia, Romina, Rachel, and Gertrude."

In 1956 Mrs. Wilson R. Durham, genealogist of Erie, Pennsylvania, sent me a number of references to Carnahans in Erie County in its early days. All pertaining to our family showed that they lived in Venango Township. The records of the Land Office at Harrisburg does not show John Carnahan as being an original patentee, so he must have purchased land from someone that had already secured his land from the state.

On March 25, 1823, on a Sunday morning, the first court house of Erie Co. burned down taking with it all the early records therein. The present public records start from that date. Erie newspapers started in January 1820; quite a good file of them in bound volumes and microfilm exist in the public library. A few copies of public and semi-public documents exist that were not burned with the courthouse records.

There were other Carnahans in that section of Erie County at the time, some of them coming in from New York state. Below is given a chronological list of the items Mrs. Durham discovered which agree with our family tradition.

- 1800 -- History of Erie County, 1884, Page 705. The Taxable Citizens of Venango Township contains the names of John Carnahan, William Carnahan, and Thomas Carnahan.
- 1810 -- Taken from articles on Erie County history by Nathaniel W. Russell in the Erie Gazette, running from 1870 through 1887. On a list of the Names and Surnames of the Male Taxable Inhabitants within the Eleventh Election District, Vanango Township, Erie County, in the year 1810 appear.
 - 6. John Carnahan
 - 7. William Carnahan
 - 8. Thomas Carnahan
 These along with Francis Carnahan qualifying on account of age voted in the General Election held on the Second Tuesday in October 1810. The paper also includes a copy of the Muster Roll for the Third Company of the 136th Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia at the outbreak of the War of 1812, made up of men from this list and area. There are 55 names on the list of Taxables, all of English or Scotch origin.
- 1811 -- Extract from Deputy Marshal's Report of Inhabitants in Erie County, February, 1811. Greenfield Township -- Donation Lands -- Range 1.
 - Warantee -- Jeremiah Fisher
 - Original Purchaser - Aaron Flint
 - Intruder on Land - John Carnahan, Senr.
 - No. of Range - 8

No. of Tract - 1
 Held by Improvement - 1 Acre
 No. of acres cleared for cultivation - 2
 No. of houses for habitation - 1
 No. of Souls - 1
 Intruders - 1

Warrantee - John Fisher
 Original Purchaser - Silas Smith
 No. of Range - 7
 No. of Tract - 1
 Held by Improvement - 1 Acre
 No. of acres cleared for cultivation - 4
 No. of Houses for habitation - 1
 No. of Souls - 1
 Intruder - John Carnahan

1812 -- Penna. Archives 6th Series Volume VIII Page 184.

Pay roll of an infantry company commanded by Capt. John Collom (Collam) under command of Gen'l William H. Harrison in the Winter of 1812-13, 2d Brigade commanded by Gen. Crooks marched to the North Western Army, Commencing 2nd Oct. 1812 and ending April 2, 1813:

Line 49 Thos. Carnahan, Sergt. 6 months (Enlistment Period)
 Discharged Nov. 7, 1812.

On the receipt roll of the same company covering the extra pay from the state of Penna., also for volunteering to serve 15 days after expiration of 6 months, Thomas Carnahan, Disc.

1814 -- Penna. Archives 6th Series Vol. X Page 75
 Receipt Roll of a company of militia commanded by Lt. Robert Davison 136th Regiment Penna. Militia commanded by Lt. Col. John Phillips under orders of Maj. Gen. Mead, Jan 1, 1814, ending Feb. 6:

	Rank	Pay	Doll.	Time Served	Amt. of Pay
			Mo.	Da.	Doll. Cts.
Thomas Carnahan	Priv.	10	1	5	11 66 2/3
Robert Carnahan	Priv.	10	1	5	11 66 2/3

1820 -- 1820 Census, Venango Township, Erie Co.
 Francis Carnahan, Male 1 (26-45)
 Female 1 (16-26)

Robert Carnahan, Male 1 (18-26)
 Females 1 (16-26) 1 (45 & 0)

1824 -- Book-A-Page 5, Prothonotary Office, Recorded June 14, 1824.

Another to Robert Carnahan of the Township of Venango in said county for a part of a certain unseated tract of land situate in the Township of Venango in said County numbered twenty-eight (28) containing one hundred acres more or less in the name of Thomas Carnahan for the sum of seven dollars and seventy-six cents being the exact amount of costs and taxes.

1825 -- In a "History of Erie Co., Pa." published by Warner Beers & Co., in 1884, page 170, mention is made of one Francis Carnahan plowing along the lake shore of Harbor Creek Township and finding a bright stone that turned out to be from ancient Egypt. The date of this was 1825.

1830 -- 1830 Census, Venango Township, Erie Co.
 Francis Carnahan, Male 1 (40-50)
 Females 2 (1-5) 2 (5-10) 1 (20-30)

Robert Carnahan, Male 2 (1-5) 1 (5-10) 1 (30-40)
 Females 2 (5-10) 1 (20-30)

1842 -- Deed Book - R - page 523, Recorded December 31, 1846.

Deed of Francis Carnahan and his wife Elizabeth of the Township of Venango, County of Erie, State of Pa. of the first part to Lyman D. Greer of the Town county and state aforesaid of the second part, 75 acres situate in the Township of Venango, County of Erie, State of Pa. Deed dated August 15, 1842. Francis Carnahan and Elisabeth Carnahan did not sign but made their marks. Deed by James Wilson, Justice of the Peace, Greenfield.

1850 -- 1850 Census, North East Township, Erie Co.

	Age	Sex	Occupation	Birthplace
Francis Carnahan	66	M	Farmer	Penna.
Elizabeth Carnahan	53	F		"
Fanny Carnahan	27	F		"
Elizabeth Carnahan	26	F		"
Mary Carnahan	22	F		"
John Carnahan	17	M		"

Venango Township, Erie Co.

Robert Carnahan	66	M	Laborer	"
Jane Carnahan	49	F		"
James Carnahan	10	M		"
Martha Carnahan	7	F		"
Bayle Donaldson	69	M	Farmer	"
Catherine Carnahan	56	F		"
Elizabeth Carnahan	66	F		"

Greenfield Township, Erie Co.

Rufus Pickett	33	M	Farmer	Conn.
Sarah Pickett	30	F		"
Robert C. Carnahan	15	M		Penna.
Joseph Berry	76	M	Farmer	N. Y.
Stephan Carnahan	13	M		Penna.

1863 -- Will of Francis Carnahan, Will Book - C - Pages 711-712.

Drawn March 3rd, 1863, Registered October 25, 1864. Francis Carnahan, Township of North East, County of Erie, State of Pa. Directs that his just debts and funeral expenses be paid; gives his wife Betsy all household furniture, beds and bedding and kitchen utensils; gives eldest daughter Elanor \$15; second daughter Fanny E. \$15; Third Daughter Mary \$15; gives son John H. all remaining real and personal property, he to pay above legacies to his sisters and maintaining his wife and daughter Fanny E. subject to provisions. Son John H. Executor. Signed by mark before witnesses.

1870 -- Deed of J. H. Carnahan et al to Charley Shule.

Deed Book 38, page 422 Record June 6, A.D. 1870. Indenture made eight day of January 1870 between John H. Carnahan & Mary J. his wife & Elizabeth Carnahan, North East Township, Erie Co., Pa., in the first part and Charley Shule same place second part. For \$1,900 sells 50 acres situate in North East Township being a part of Tract No. 57 described. Same land conveyed by Henry Cramond of the City of Philadelphia to Francis Carnahan by deed dated 29th day of August A.D. 1845, recorded March 15, 1853 Deed Book - W - Page 1367 & to John Carnahan by will.

Sealed and delivered: Elizabeth Carnahan made her mark, John Carnahan made his mark, Mrs. Mary J. Carnahan signed. Papers drawn and completed in the presence of S. S. Hammond, Justice of the Peace for the said county the 11th day of April 1870.

The same year John Carnahan was listed as a farmer in North East Township, Erie Co., in the Erie County Directory. He does not appear in the next directory for 1886.

To describe the local situation more fully the following two diagrams are submitted:

Lake Erie

Erie	North East Twp.:	New	Greenfield Twp. Surveyed in tracts 6:	
Co.	Greenfield Twp.:		of 403 A. 80 perches, 214 rods North 7: N.	
			and south, 320 rods east & west.	8:
Penna.	Venango Twp.:	York	Venango Twp. in the northeast cor:	
			ner surveyed in 100 A	28 8 :
	Amity Twp.:		Tracts.	29 7 :
				30 6 :
----- Erie Co. Pa.				

Tracts mentioned under date of 1811 are in the southeast corner of Greenfield Twp., along the N.Y. border, that of Thomas Carnahan in Venango Twp., under date of 1824 is in the northeast corner of the township, one row of tracts from the New York border. A ridge parallels the border about 200-400 yards from it on the Pennsylvania side. When viewed in May 1959 much of this land is now in a reforestation project and a game farm, for a mile or upwards west of the ridge. From there the land is good farming land, to the valley of the West Branch of French Creek, gently rolling, few stones now or in old piles or walls. Tract 28 Venango Township once held by Thomas Carnahan shows evidence of a habitation, old well, springhouse, foundations, etc., along the township line before it drops down into new York state. No buildings are there now. About twenty acres around it are cleared. When and by whom occupied was not ascertainable.

On the same trip the old Middlebrook Cemetery, about three miles to the southwest of here was visited. This is easily reached, about two miles to the north of Lowville, or four north of Wattsburg, on the east side of Penna. Highway 89. A small boulder with bronze plaque attached marks site of first American house of worship erected in Erie County, 1801-1843. This was erected by the Erie Presbytery which holds title to the acre or so around here.

Back of this is a small grove containing the graves of the first settlers buried here. Most of the stones are old, aged, broken and flat on the ground, nearly all died previous to the Civil War. The first one noted was that of Bailey Donaldson, a replacement, very new. He died in 1853 aged 71 years. He was listed among the Taxables of 1810, the local militia company at the time, and in the Census of 1850, with whom the unmarried daughters of John Carnahan were living. John Yost and other settlers on this list, or members of their families have headstones here.

A search was made of the cemeteries of Lowville and of Little Hope, then called Springfield, about two miles north of the township line in Springfield township, without disclosing any Carnahan graves. It is probably that they were buried on their own land as was the custom in early times. These usually disappear in time when the land is in the hands of others.

In 1929 the school children of the rural areas of Penna. were asked to take a day and go into all of the old cemeteries in their respective school districts and copy the names and dates of all persons buried prior to 1850. No Carnahans were reported in Middlebrook Cemetery at the time.

All efforts to prove Revolutionary War service by our John Carnahans have been of no avail. In 1957 the General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, Washington 25, D. C., made a search under this name and the various spellings of it, but had no file in the pension and bounty land warrant application files. It did report a Lieut. John Carnahan, appointed or commissioned July 1, 1778, appearing on a muster roll dated Oct. 5, 1779, at Ft. Pitt, for the months April to Sept. 1779 inclusive in Moorhead's Independent Co., Pa. This period was at the time of Col. Broadhead's expedition against the Iroquois in the campaign to destroy their villages and crops.

A John Carnahan who died March 24, 1825, aged 80 years, 11 months, Revolutionary Soldier, is reported buried in the Millcreek Farm Cemetery, 1½ miles west of Utica French Creek Twp., Venango Co.

Penna. Archives, 5th series, Vol. 7, Londonderry Township, Lancaster County, since 1785 in Dauphin County:

Page 6. Liberty Company of Londonberry Township, May 17, 1775

Robert Carnahan

Capt. David McQueen's Company, 7th Battalion, 1781

Page 698 2nd class William Carnaghan
6th class Jno. Carnaghan
Page 726 1st class Wm. Carnahan
Page 727 6th class John Carnahan, also pp 742, 760
Page 727 7th class James Carnahan, also p 760

None of these fit into the tradition of service of our John Carnahan. Some of the early rolls are not indexed as yet but with meager records now available, it would be very hard to prove the line of descent even if other Johns are discovered.

Dauphin County was formed in 1785, two years after John and his family left for Erie County. A check of its first records of Wills and Deeds showed nothing at all. Tax lists of the family name showing the amounts for 1785-1791, in English money of pounds, shillings and pence, are given below. Another list giving the property of the tax payers for the same period, shows "1 horse, 1 cow, 50 acres, 60 acres."

1785 - Londonderry Twp.	- John Kernechan	0 1 6
	James Kernachen	0 5 10 (and landlord)
1786 - Londonderry Twp.	- John Cernahan	0 1 3
	William Cernahan	0 1 3
	James Kernahan	0 7 6
1787 - Londonderry Twp.	- John Carbaughen	0 1 3
	William Carbaughen	0 1 3
	James Carbaughen	0 1 3
1788 - Londonderry Twp.	- John Carnichan	
	William Carnichan	
1789 - Londonderry Twp.	- John Carnihan	0 2 6
	William Carnihan	0 2 6
1790 - Londonderry Twp.	- William Carnihan	
1791 - Londonderry Twp.	- William Carnihan	

These may or may not have been relatives of the family left in Dauphin County. Something may come up to throw more light on the subject, but this is all I have at present.

Hugh L. Carnahan
Hugh L. Carnahan, 0122016
Colonel, Army of the United States,
Retired.

July 1961

C A R N A H A N N O T E S

ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

According to the quite reliable memory of my grandfather, Hazeckiah Lewis Carnahan (1830-1914), his father Thomas Carnahan (1783-1849) was born in that portion of Pennsylvania that became Dauphin County in 1785. In 1783 the grandfather, John Carnahan, moved his family consisting of his wife Fannie, the first son William and the infant Thomas to Erie County, Pennsylvania. There his remaining children, Francis, Robert, Elizabeth and Catherine were born.

John Carnahan, a Scotchman by birth, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving under General Washington during the entire war. He was present at the battle of Brandywine and the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. Of Fannie Carnahan nothing definite is known. To date the military service has not been verified, although many old records have not been searched.

In the family the name William John occurs frequently. It was the name of my father (1860-1934) and of his uncle (-1861). In daily use John or William may have been used and the only name known to many. On formal documents the full name, or either may have been used, to the great confusion of later searchers. From old records and writings we know that John, Sr., and his son William were residents of Erie County and alive up to and including the year 1810; Francis to 1864, Robert to 1850, Elizabeth and Catherine to 1850. The last three are mentioned in the Census of 1850, as is Francis whose will was published in 1864. Thomas remained in Erie County until sometime between 1815 and 1820 when he moved to Mercer County, Pennsylvania, to that portion that later became Lawrence County. In 1835 he moved to Richland County, Ohio. In the fall of 1848 he went back to Erie County for a visit, was taken sick and died March 6, 1849. He was buried in that county, place unknown.

For all this period and before I never knew of any document, certificate, correspondence or writing that would record any fact or story of their hardships in this trying period. Stories and traditions were not handed down from one generation to the next for any length of time. We can only assume that they were typical of the people and the times where they lived. The following extracts from old writings and histories of Erie County are given, with some explanation, to show how the people existed.

Most of the information about Erie County and the Carnahan family therein has been secured by Mrs. Wilson R. Durham. She is a member of the Erie Co. Pa. Chapter, D.A.R. and does a great deal of genealogical research in this connection. To save work showing the sources of information initials are given. Where followed by figures these indicate the page thereof.

CN -- Carnahan Notes July 1959.

CBT -- Carnahans of Bell Township, Westmoreland Co. Pa.

D -- Mrs. Wilson R. Durham, 1419 Hart Road, R. D. #8, Erie, Pa.

LOE -- Landmarks of Old Erieland, a handsome booklet of a series of illustrated advertisements gotten out by the Security-Peoples Trust Co., 801 State St., Erie, illustrating the early events in the history of the city.

REC -- Roaming Erie County, Pennsylvania, a booklet of excellent photographs of scenes and historic spots in Erie County, with explanations of same.

In LOE and REC the data for the explanations has been carefully checked for authenticity. The excerpts given here are taken from the full explanation. The actual words are given so that nothing will detract from the original writing. Each quotation of any length is shown separated from the others.

At the Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, the following data was secured from "More Irish Families", 1960, by Edward MacLysaght:

"(O) Kernaghan, Co. Donegal. This name now belongs to Co. Armagh and also to adjacent parts of Co. Antrim, where it is also spelled Kernohan." (Shown on the north Coast of Donegal on the accompanying Medieval Sept. Map 1250-1600.)

From a NEWS map copyrighted 1961 by NEWS Syndicate Co., Inc., issued in a Sunday Supplement around St. Patrick's Day 1961. This map shows the location of the early Irish families in Ireland. The O'Kernaghan families are in Co. Sligo and Co. Donegal, but not in Co. Armagh or Co. Antrim. This is as stated in the "Genealogical History of Irish Families" by John Rooney, CN2. This is probably dated before 1558 when the British tried to exterminate the clan, and one group fled by sea to Dumfries and another to Aberdeen, Scotland. Probably others sought refuge in the Protestant counties Armagh and Antrim of Ulster to the east.

D. The history of the origin of the Carnahan family in America as given in CN2 is verified by Vol. 1 pp 339-341 Genealogical and Personal History of the Allegheny Valley of Pennsylvania. It agrees in all particulars with that given in 1959.

The extract from this volume follows:

* * * * *

CARNAHAN

The first authentic information relating to this family dates back to the year 1540, when three Irish tribes or clans by the name of Carnochan, Carnaghan, and Carnathan, entered into an agreement to unite for self protection. Previous to this time, tradition says, they subsisted by the right of the strong arm, as was the custom of the day, preying on the weaker tribes and levying tribute in lands, cattle and servants.

Inhabiting the rough and stormy coast of the north of Ireland, one of their chief means of support was from the wreckage of vessels driven ashore, and they were even accused of luring them ashore by means of false lights.

When the great religious reformation spread over Ireland, they embraced the Calvinistic faith and doctrines, and in 1540 united under the leadership of one James Alexander Carnahan. That they were strong and firm in their beliefs is evidenced by the fact that they met in numerous pitched battles the soldiers of Mary X Tudor (1553-1558).

In the latter year they were almost exterminated, their chief slain and goods and lands confiscated to the crown. Many suffered imprisonment or death. Some escaped and of these there are traces of two branches who took refuge in Scotland; one settled at or near Dumfries and the other at Aberdeen.

The Dumfries branch became weavers by occupation; the Aberdeen branch became hewers of stone or stone masons, and at one time owned and worked large quarries.

That they became people of some importance is know, for one John Andrew Carnahan was a delegate to the convention in France from which resulted the celebrated Edict of Nantes (1585).

But little is known of the family again until 1709 when James Alexander Carnahan was born in Aberdeen, Scotland. He is supposed

to be the direct ancestor of the branch of the family hereinafter described.

He is reputed to have been a man of powerful build, standing six feet four in his bare feet, and weighting about two hundred and fifty pounds, of a dark and swarthy complexion, self-esteemed and very determined in his religious views. He had fourteen sons and five daughters. Of the sons, James Hugh and John emigrated to America with their families between 1760 and 1770 and settled in the Cumberland Valley at Carlisle, Penna.

Undoubtedly descended from one of the brothers above named was Adam Carnahan born at or near Carlisle, Penna., Nov. 22, 1777, died Aug. 25, 1853. He removed to New Lebanon, Mercer County, Penna., where he settled on a five hundred acre tract of land for which he obtained a patent, a document which is still extant.

He married Ruth McElwayne, Born Jan. 25, 1781, died June 23, 1853, two months before the death of her husband. He served in the War of 1812. They had four sons and five daughters.

* * * * *

The Carnahans of Bell Township, is a history of that group of the family that came into a portion of Westmoreland Co., about twenty miles to the east and slightly north of Pittsburgh, when the land was opened for settlement April 3, 1769 or shortly thereafter, from east of the Allegheny Mountains. It is written by Mrs. Dorothy G. McCreary, Salina, Pa., now 81 years of age. It is a very detailed account of the members of this group and their fortunes. A copy of the 11 page mimeographed history has been filed in the Library of the DAR at Washington, D. C. It is dated March 26, 1959. Some of this information appears on CN4, including the fight at Carnahan Blockhouse.

In the latter half of the seventeenth century (1600's) the French settled at Quebec and Montreal on the St. Lawrence River. They were mainly interested in trading with the Indians for furs. They pushed up the Great Lakes and across to the tributaries running into the Mississippi River, down this to their settlement at New Orleans. They soon came in conflict with the English, mainly the Virginians who had claims to the Ohio Valley, and determined to fortify the Ohio River from what is now Pittsburgh to the Mississippi.

REC. "Barcelona Harbor is two miles north of Westfield, N. Y., on Lake Erie. The first expedition to visit the southern shores of Lake Erie was under Celeron de Bienville, who landed at this spot in July 1749 with 200 Frenchmen. With immense labor they cut a portage up the hills to Lake Chautauqua continued down the Conewango and the Allegheny Rivers to La Belle Riviere, now called the Ohio."

"In 1753 Chevalier Pierre Paul Marin with an army of 250 French, landed here briefly and then continued thirty miles westward to an excellent harbor which he named Presqu' Isle. This is now Erie."

"LOE. "In the early spring of the year 1753, the main body of Governor Duquesne's Ohio Expedition, under the command of Sieur Marin, paddled their batteaux through the treacherous entrance to the 'finest harbor in nature,' Presque Isle Bay. They literally opened the gateway to today's commerce here in Erieland. A little east of what is now the foot of Parade Street, Marin erected Fort Presque Isle. Within 2 years 356 families lived near the fort in rough hewn cabins---480 families by 1757."

"Squared chestnut timbers, 10 feet high, were planted upright as a palisade 120 feet square. At the four corners were palisaded bastions of solid timber with firing slits and observation shutters. Within the enclosure were 4 large solid timber houses which served as quarters for the officers and men of the expedition and as ample storage for weapons, ammunition and food. The stockade gate opened to the south."

At Waterford now about 15 miles south of Erie, the French built another fort, Fort Le Boeuf, just south of where the Eagle Hotel now stands and across from the Fort Le Boeuf Museum. This was close to French Creek, down which the supplies portaged from Erie were taken to their Fort Duquesne and other forts on the Ohio. French Creek runs into the Allegheny River and this joins the Monongahela River at Fort Duquesne, now Pittsburgh, to form the Ohio. A statue to George Washington has been erected on the site of Fort Le Boeuf.

REC. "George Washington slept here from the 11th to the 16th of December 1753. His statue portrays him correctly as a youth of 21 in the uniform of a major of the British Army.

"Fort Le Boeuf was built by the French in 1753, and was abandoned by them in 1759. The British occupied it in 1760, and it was burned by the Indians on June 18, 1763 during the uprising known as Pontiac's Conspiracy. Fort Presqu' Isle was burned four days later.

"Pennsylvania troops rebuilt the fort in 1794."

The "triangle" refers to the land bounded by Lake Erie, the western boundary of New York and the northern boundary of Pennsylvania on the south, on which Erie now stands.

LOE. "When the British King Charles II granted "Penns Woods" to William Penn he said nothing about the "Triangle." But when Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia sent young Major George Washington to Fort Le Boeuf to demand that the French leave these lands, Virginia claimed the ground -- then Connecticut, then Massachusetts, Maryland and New York. Until 1785 Presque Isle was a stoutly defended British Outpost when John Adams protested to the crown in London that the British still garrisoned the fort. Whereupon the King withdrew his Redcoats, leaving the triangle a "no man's land" to be seized by the United States. * * * * * The state of Pennsylvania then bought 202,187 acres, title clear, from the United States for \$151,640.25 in Continental Certificates. The patent signed April 23, 1794 by George Washington, President and Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of State, set forth materially the present boundaries of Erieland."

"In June 1795 General William Irvine and Major Andrew Ellicott, State Commissioners, with a corps of surveyors and a protective military escort, began to lay out Erie. From the shoreline outcroppings of the rock stratum that underlies the city, they selected a stone 3 inches thick, 48 inches long and 16 inches wide. On it they inscribed 'ERIE 1795 Lat. 42° 8' 14" N. Var. 43 E.' Then they set it in the ground on the spot of Old French Fort Presque Isle, now the Southeast Corner of Parade and Front Streets. From this landmark, measurements were computed for all streets, alleys, lanes, in-lots, out-lots and squares."

REC. "French Creek, one mile south of Colt's Station on Route 89. This was the head of navigation of French Creek. Judah Colt, agent of the Pennsylvania Population Company, established this station in 1797. He chose this location for the reason that the portage from Lake Erie to French Creek was one-half as long here as the portage from Presqu' Isle to Lake Le Boeuf."

D. "History of Erie County, 1884 p 705. Venango Township. The taxable citizens of the township in 1800 were as follows: William Allison, Hezekiah Barker, Philo Barker, Henry Bontz, John Boyd, John Carnahan, William Carnahan, Thomas Carnahan, John Clark, Thomas Davison, Sr., and his sons, Robert, George, Arthur and Thomas, Jr., and others."

* * * * *

D. Notes from an abstract of Judah Colt's Autobiography

I was born at Lynn, Conn., July 1, 1761. In August 1795, in company with Augustus Porter, came to Erie to purchase land. At Presque found a number of men encamped, United States Troops erecting

a fort and Commissioners for the State, Gen. William Irvine and Andrew Ellicott, laying out the town of Erie. They had about 100 militia troops in their employ. Thomas Rees was acting as agent for the Pennsylvania Population Company in the survey and sale of lands. Porter and I took two certificates of 400 acres each at \$1.00 per acre payable in five installments. We made but a brief stay.

On the 3d of March 1796 went to Philadelphia for the purpose of getting the lands purchased of Mr. Rees at Erie confirmed. The principal proprietors of the Population Company resided there.

Offered to buy 30,000 acres at \$1 per acre but they declined to sell in so large a body. Col. Aaron Burr, who was one of the proprietors, informed me that they were in need of a more active agent and offered me the position. A contract was entered into by which they agreed to pay me \$1,500 a year besides board, traveling expenses, etc. This was raised to \$2,500 in 1798. Money was advanced with which to procure supplies and hire laborers, and in the month of April I started to return to my home in the Genesee County, New York. At New York City I laid in provisions, sundry kinds of goods and farming utensils such as were needed in a new country. They were shipped under the care of Enoch Marvin, up the river to Albany, across the portage by wagons to the Mohawk, up the latter by Batteaux, then by wagons again to Oswego, and from there by lake and wagon to Presque Isle (Erie). Mr. Marvin arrived at the latter place on the 22d day of June 1796 but the boats did not reach Presque Isle till the 1st of July. He found a Captain's command stationed there in a garrison laid out and built in 1795. His tent or marquee was erected near the old French garrison. During the season he met with considerable opposition from advance settlers, a company known as Dunning McNair & Co. from the neighborhood of Pittsburgh.

Leaving the agency in charge of Elisha and Enoch Marvin (my brothers-in-law) I set out on the 4th day of November for Philadelphia, returning to the mouth of Sixteen Mile Creek (Erie County) May 31, 1797.

June 1, I rode out to where Elisha Marvin was stationed, who had charge of the men employed by the agency, nine miles south of Lake Erie, known afterward as Colt's Station. Made this my headquarters until the 10th of November. The season was of much business. The opposition of advance settlers caused me much trouble. I had to keep from forty to one hundred men in service to defend the settlers and property. More than once mobs of twenty to thirty assembled for the purpose of doing mischief. Went to Pittsburgh with witnesses and had a number indicted by the grand jury of Allegheny County.

On my return loaded a boat with stores to take to Sixteen Mile Creek, and put in charge of four men. On their way up the lake, a storm upset the boat and three men were drowned.

Went East in the fall and set out to return to Erie in April 1798. At New York purchased supplies, which were sent forward in charge of B. Saxton and Elephalet Beebe. Arrived at Presque Isle on the 31st of May and at Greenfield the 3d of June. Brought my wife along for the first time. Resided at Colt's Station with the family until the 7th of November. On the 10th of October I accompanied about sixty-five of the settlers to Erie to attend an election, all of whom voted in favor of a Federal Representative.

On the 7th of November with Mrs. Colt set out for Pittsburgh on horseback. Our baggage was taken down French Creek in boats. Arrived at Pittsburgh the 9th of January 1799.

During the year 1801 some progress was made in organizing the militia of Greenfield. Elisha Marvin was chosen Captain. He had about eighty men in his company. In the month of June 1803, aided by a Deputy Marshal of the U. S. Court, removed sundry intruders against whom ejectments had been brought, some of which were obstinate and gave much trouble.

The country in 1805 was still far from tranquil. People continued to take unlawful possession of lands claimed under warrants.

D. History of Erie County 1884 p 221-222. "In 1797 Judah Colt cut a road from the mouth of Sixteen Mile Creek on Lake Erie to Colt's Station, later this road was extended to Little Hope."

D. Transportation. "Up to 1800 a good share of travel and transportation was by means of small boats on the lake from Buffalo, and by the way of French Creek and the Allegheny River from Pittsburgh. Judah Colt's colony was supplied by these two routes, the boats on French Creek to Little Hope, and then overland by ox teams or horseback."

D. "While Mr. Colt remained at the Station, it was a busy place, being the depot of supplies for all the country round. Mr. Colt removed his residence to Erie in 1804 and after his departure the glory of the station faded and many of the residents moved away."

D. "The first group of settlers locating around the Station were mainly from the New England States, later came a group of Scotch Irish from South Eastern Pennsylvania."

* * * * *

D. Warrants and Patents of Land, from Your Family Tree -- March-April 1953. This is how an attorney explained the terms warrants and patents of land. When a man wanted to settle on a certain tract of land he went to Harrisburg, paid a sum of money and got what was called a warrant. The surveyor made two plans, one was sent to Harrisburg, and the one was given to the warrantee.

The Warrantee was required by the same warrant, within two years to settle on his land and clear five acres and build a house "fit for the habitation of man" -- these were the words of the act of assembly - and raise grain each year for five years.

If he did these things and then proved up the settlement the state would give him a patent for the land.

Another way provided by the assembly was that any man could choose his 400 acres to suit himself, go on it and take possession, if it were not occupied, and build his house, live there five years and clear five acres and then go to the Commonwealth, pay \$150 and get a deed for the 400 acres.

The effect of this was that the settler who chose the first plan would pay the state \$150 and get a warrant for 400 acres. Then before he could take possession, some squatter would come along, "squat" on his 400 acres, build a house and stay five years and then apply for a patent.

This resulted in ejectment suits and a few went to higher courts of the State and Nation. The settlement adopted in the majority of cases gave the squatter 150 acres and the warrantee 250 acres."

* * * * *

D.

To the commissioners of the County of Erie

Gentlemen:

The following is a list of the lands claimed by the Pennsylvania Population Company in the County of Erie with the names of the warrantees, names of the purchasers of parts of tracts and their assignees (as far as they have been ascertained) and the names of those settlers in opposition to the title of said company, all of which is believed to be correct.

If any errors or omissions do hereafter appear they shall be corrected. It is possible that some whole and parts of tracts that have been sold may have been abandoned by the purchasers; if any such shall appear by the Assessors Returns, the taxes will be paid by the said company when advised thereof. Also annexed is a list of lands

claimed by Robert Browne and H. J. Huidekoper, with the names of the persons who are now or were late in possession of the same.

Erie, April 5, 1807

I remain Gentlemen

Your most O. Servant

"Signed Judah Colt, Agent for P.P. Co.

- - - - -
Venango Township

Tract No. 27

Warrantee -- John Dorsey

Acres reserved by the company -- 253 $\frac{1}{2}$

Original Purchaser -- Aaron Flint

Sold -- 150 Acres

Intruder -- James Carnahan

Tract No. 28

Warrantee -- Patrick Duffy

Acres reserved by the company -- 253 $\frac{1}{2}$

Original Purchaser -- Aaron Flint

Sold -- 150 Acres

Intruder -- William Carnahan

- - - - -
Donation Range No. 1 -- Greenfield Township

No. 7

Warrantee -- John Fisher

Name of Original Purchaser -- Silas Smith

Intruder -- John Carnahan, Jr.

No. of Range -- 1

No. of Tract -- 7

Number residing on the Land -- 0

Held by Improvement -- 1

Number of Houses Fit for Habitation -- 1

Number of Acres cleared for Cultivation -- 4

Number of Soules -- 1

Barns & Stables -- 0

Tons of Hay -- 0

Acres of grain sown -- 0

Mills -- 0

Intruders -- 1

No. 8

Name of Warrantee -- Jeremiah Fisher
 Name of Original Purchaser -- Aaron Flint
 Intruder -- John Carnahan, Senr.
 Number of Range -- 1
 Number of Tract -- 8
 Held by Improvement -- 1
 Number of houses fit for habitation -- 1
 Number of Soules -- 1
 Barnes & Stables -- 0
 Acres Changed Over -- 0
 Tons of hay -- 0
 Acres of grain sown -- 0
 Mills -- 0
 Intruder -- 1

- - - - -

Donation Range No. 2 -- Greenfield Township.

No. 8

Name of warrantee -- John Dorsey
 Name of Original Purchaser -- Aaron Flint
 Name of Present Claimant by Assignment --
 Name of Intruder on Land -- Carnahan
 Number of Range -- 2
 Number of Tract -- 8
 Number Residing on the land -- 0
 Held by Improvement -- 1
 Number of Houses fit for habitation -- 1
 Number of Soules -- 1
 Barnes & Stables -- 1
 Acres changed over -- 0
 Mills -- 0
 Tons of Hay -- 1
 Acres of grain sown -- 0
 Intruders -- 1

REC D. "One of the first undertakings of Mr. Colt was to construct a road from Colt Station to the lake shore at the mouth of Sixteen Mile Creek where a port was established and supplies for the interior were received from Buffalo and carted all the way up the difficult road to the depot of the Population Company. This road was the first road cut through the forest after the advent of the permanent settlers. The lake terminus of this road of Mr. Colt's came to be known as Freeport and though no longer a port of entry, is still known by the name, at any rate to the people of North East.

"Soon after this road was extended southward to a place called Greenfield Village or Little Hope on the West Branch of French Creek. The extension was cut through in 1798, and the reason for it was that Mr. Leverett Bissell, a native of Connecticut, and a Revolutionary War soldier one of the earliest of the settlers, had taken up 400 acres, his soldier's right, and established a landing on French Creek at which batteaux could unload and load with supplies from down state and had also built a saw mill. Leverett Bissell returned to Connecticut to live about 1806 and died in Connecticut about 1812.

"His holdings in Erie County passed to his son Serrell Bissell. There is little to be seen today at Little Hope just a few houses, one church, a small store and school. Later in 1798 the road was again extended from Little Hope to the forks of the East and West Branch of French Creek, to what is now Wattsburg. At Wattsburg William had a depot for supplies for the settlers.

"The best main road to Little Hope today is Erie to Wesleyville out Station Road. This road was cut through in 1830, and to enter the village one takes the spur into it. You pass the cemetery on your way in. On the north side of the cemetery is a sheer drop of 50 feet down to the creek where was once the saw mill and batteaux landing. Serrell Bissell and his wife are buried alongside station road under the trees across from the spur road.

"About in 1799 the Penna. Population Company sent Colonel Dunning McNair, as their agent into Conneaut Township, Erie County, to sell it to settlers. They cut a road through from Waterford to Cranesville. His depot was at Lexington, north of Albion.

"Some 200 men from Anthony Wayne's army landed here at Erie early in the spring of 1795, under the command of Captain Russell Bissell to erect blockhouses to protect the harbor. Captain Bissell had served in the Revolution; he was a brother of Leverett Bissell of Little Hope. Captain Bissell and his men remained until about 1799 and then were transferred down the Ohio and later to St. Louis. I believe Captain Bissell died at St. Louis about 1806."

* * * * *

D. During the period 1870 to 1887 inclusive, the Erie Gazette from time to time printed articles on Erie County history by Nathaniel W. Russell. The following applies to Vanango Township.

ERIE COUNTY -- ELECTIONS

As the Court House with all records was burnt in 1823, and no record is left of the voters and elections before that date, it may not be uninteresting to some of my readers to give a verbatim copy of some ancient papers regarding early elections. They are official and the originals all made with the pen, in the handwriting of that old pioneer writer, Thomas Wilkins, who never made mistakes in his papers. The documents run as follows:

List of the Names and Surnames of the Male Taxable Inhabitants within the Eleventh Election district, Venango township, Erie County, in the Year 1810.

Names of Taxables

1. William Allison - v.
2. Hezekiah Barker
3. Philo Barker
4. Henry Bontz - v.
5. John Boyd
6. John Carnahan - v.
7. William Carnahan -- v.
8. Thomas Carnahan - v.
9. John Clark
10. Thomas Davison - v.
11. Francis Davison - v.
12. Robert Davison - v.
13. George Davison - v.
14. Thomas Davison - v.
15. Arthur Davison - v.
16. James Dickson - v.
17. William Dickson - v.
18. Bailey Donaldson - v.
19. John Donaldson - v.
20. James Donaldson - v.
21. James Dickson, Jr. - v.
22. Samuel Henderson - v.
23. Stewart Henderson
24. Stephen Hazelton
25. James Hunter - v.
26. John Hunter - v.
27. Thomas Henton, Jr.
28. Robert Johnson - v.
29. William Johnson
30. John B. Jones - v.
31. Caleb Lyon
32. David McNair - v.
33. Joseph McGahan
34. William Miles
35. Barnabas McCue
36. Andrew Norcross - v.
37. John Phillips, Esq. - v.
38. James M. Phillips
39. David Phillips - v.
40. Thomas Prentice - v.
41. James Perry
42. James M. Reed - v.
43. Thomas E. Reed - v.
44. Robert R. Reed -- v.
45. Ralph Spafford
46. Thomas Smith - v.
47. Samuel Smith - v.
48. John Smith - v.
49. Benjamin Saxon
50. Jedediah Tracy - v.
51. Zalmon Tracy - v.
52. Burrell Tracy - v.
53. Nathaniel Wilson - v.
54. John Warren
55. John Yost - v.
- Francis Carnahan - v. (age)
- Moses Brown (age) - v.

The above is a list of the taxables then in Venango township and those marked v. voted at General Election of 1810.

Return at the General Election held on the second Tuesday in October, 1810, at the house of John Yost, in the Eleventh Election district, Erie County and State of Pennsylvania, for the purpose of electing by ballot, One Member of Congress, Two Representatives for the Assembly of said State two Sheriffs, one Commissioner, and three Auditors for the County of Erie aforesaid.

Member of Congress, - Abner Lacock had 26, Twenty - six votes; Abner Awlcock had 2, two votes; Samuel Sinpot had 1, one vote; Samuel Smith had 1, one vote; Samuel Saul had 1, one vote.

For Representatives:

John Phillips had 26 votes, James Herrington had 26, twenty-six votes; Roger Alden had 5, five votes; Enoch Marvin had 5, five votes;

For Sheriff -- James Weston had 26, twenty-six votes; John Lytle had 2, two votes; James Herron had 5, five votes; David Wallace had 19 nineteen votes; Robert Davison had 4, four votes; Napolian Bonpart had 1, one vote; Gustovus Adolphus had 1, one vote; Robert Irwin, Jun. had 1, one vote; Philip Tanner had 1, one vote; Adam Lafer had 1, one vote; John Z. Bontz had 1, one vote.

Commissioner: John Salsbury had 26, twenty-six votes; John C. Wallace had 5, five votes.

County Auditors: - John Grubb had 26, twenty-six votes; Charles Martin had 26, twenty-six votes; Conrad Brown had 14, fourteen votes; Thomas Dunn had 15, fifteen votes; William Wallace had 5, five votes; James Pollock had 5, five votes; John Lytle had 2, two votes.

We certify the foregoing to be a true state of the number of votes for each candidate respectively at the time and place first above mentioned.

James Donaldson }
John B. Jones } Judges

Robert Davison }
William Allison } Inspectors

I doubt if another list of taxables and General Election return of sixty-four years ago can be found in the county, although there may be several.

The following is a copy of the Muster Roll for the Third Company of the 136th Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia, at the breaking out of the War of 1812, and who were in the service at Erie during the war.

Captain William Dickson, Lieutenant Robert Davison, Ensign Thomas Davison, Sergeants Arthur Davison, John Dickson, David Phillips; Privates James Donaldson, David McNair, Bailey Donaldson, Thomas Johnson, John Hunter, Samuel Smith, George Davison, John B. Jones, John Smith, James Smith, James White, Thomas Prentice, Samuel Henderson, Thomas Henton, Griffith Henton, William Henton, Zalmon Tracy, Burrell Tracy, Thomas E. Reed.

In April, 1813, Captain Dickson removed from the vicinity, and the Company then came under the command of Lieutenant Robert Davison and so remained during the war, and in June of that year was called out at Erie, and some time was the guard at the shipyards at Cascade Street, where the fleet was building and stores were deposited in a small block house there. When they were withdrawn the Company of James Bird and others were stationed there and poor Bird's misfortune of mutiny &c., commenced there.

Captain Davison's Company was at Erie until Perry sailed with the fleet, when they were dismissed and sent home. In January, 1814, when the news came that Buffalo was taken by the British and burned, and the forces were again called, they were then all out until all danger was over when they got their final discharge.

The assessment of Venango township for the year 1817, has William Miles, Esq., as owner of 2400 acres in that township, the great portion of it being where the towns of Wattsburg and Lowville are now standing. The whole was then valued at \$3400 -- perhaps some resident of that vicinity will tell what their valuation is at the present day.

Of all the above names as taxables, voters, taxpayers, and on the Muster Roll, but one is now living. That one is Mr. John Smith, who has been a resident of Venango since 1801, and enjoys his home and comforts and good health. Long may he be spared to enjoy them after his toils and privations of early days. These papers have been carefully preserved by Robert Davison and can be seen at the Gazette office if desired for a short time.

One of the very first settlers in Venango township was John Phillips, who located in the northwestern portion of the township and for many years was a prominent citizen of the county but since his death in 1846 that location has remained very inactive until recently. Within the past few years a new set of enterprising men have located at the "Conners" always known as "Phillips Corners" and they with some of the old residents there, have shown the enterprise and activity that bids fair to make that locality a prominent part of our County.

Phillipsville post office has made great improvements, in church school and grange buildings, and assumed an air of business that must be successful. A large cheese factory has been in operation for the past three seasons and carried on successfully by the managers thereof, and they were not unmindful of the Home for the Friendless in their donation to its assistance, which was very liberal. A store, shoeshop, smith shops, shingle factory and other works have been started there, and carried on with success. These men are bound to prosper, and it will add greatly to the value of the real estate adjacent thereto by those improvements. It was much wanted in that locality to have a business opening made there, and I trust that it will be a success to all engaged in it.

(Written by Nathaniel W. Russell)

Erie Gazette -- December 15, 1874

After you have read the foregoing you have an excellent idea of the conditions that confronted John Carnahan and the other settlers of 1783 when they arrived in Erie County. This is the first known group of English speaking white settlers that attempted to make their homes in the county. It was the year that the peace treaty was signed with England ending the Revolutionary War. The Indians on the western frontier if not friendly were subdued. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania had set aside Donation Lands in this area to reward the officers and men who had served in its regiments during the war. Many of the veterans were moving westward to their lands. Many other people were thinking of moving to the new lands to better themselves.

A group of settlers was usually formed of several related families, of relatives, neighbors, friends, and frequently came from the same religious congregation. No records concerning these "advance settlers" of 1783 are known to exist. We do know that John Carnahan was residing in Londonderry Township, Lancaster County, and that in 1785 this became Dauphin County, of which Harrisburg is the county seat as well as the state capital.

Since 1758 there had been a wagon road across the mountains to Pittsburgh, and only one. This had been built by Maj. Gen. Forbes of the British Army to supply his men during his campaign against Fort Duquesne, which he named Fort Pitt when he captured it. Settlers had swarmed over it from 1769 to the start of the war but Indian troubles had kept them in check. John Carnahan and his friends either reached it by boat down the Susquehanna River or by wagon on a connecting road, then followed the Forbes Road to Pittsburgh.

This was the headquarters of a land company with some claim to the lands in Erie County. The settlers had no way of knowing that other land companies might contest this claim. They must have paid whatever fees were charged. Securing boats and equipping themselves for a long stay in the wilderness the party rowed, paddled, poled, and dragged the boats with their possessions up the Allegheny River to French Creek and then to their promised land. They did not take the branch that led to the site of old Fort Le Boeuf, now Waterford, for the fort at Erie was still held by British troops, but followed the West Branch of French Creek to what is now Wattsburg and Venango Township.

The settlers chose their lands, built their cabins and cleared patches for their crops. They soon found that the Holland Land Co. that had been operating in Western New York also had a claim to the land around Wattsburg. Ten years after the advance settlers came in the Pennsylvania Population Company began to make itself felt, coming into the county by the other water route, up the St. Lawrence to Lakes Ontario and Erie, with settlers from the New England states. It had a superior claim, more money, better managers, and influence at the state capitol and the city of Philadelphia. Eventually they won out.

The new lands were Pennsylvania lands and not Federal Government lands. To induce early settlement the legislature made it easy for a man to secure 400 acres or thereabouts. Instead of surveying it in sections a mile square, it was surveyed in tracts 320 rods east and west (1 mile) and 214 rods north and south (slightly over 2/3 of a mile), giving a net amount of 403½ acres, plus about a 6% allowance for roads. These tracts were numbered as sections in the midwest are numbered for description. In practice the roads seldom followed the land boundaries but took the easiest and most direct way in going from one place to another.

On March 1, 1961 a Road Map of Erie County was copyrighted by Eugene M. Kiehlmeir, 2118 Liberty St., Erie, Penna. At the Erie Book Store it is available for 50¢ plus 2¢ tax and postage. It shows all the main roads, their names, towns and township boundaries. The Station Road runs east from Wesleyville in northeast Erie to the New York line. Nearly any road map will show Route 89 running north from Wattsburg to North East and Freeport on the lake shore. It parallels the New York line at a distance of about three or four miles. Where

the two roads cross a marker of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in the southwest corner identifies this as the location of Colt's Station. Both roads are good two lane paved highways. In the northwest corner of the cross roads is located a general store and a few houses. The store is built on the foundation of the main station building. Three hundred yards to the north along the road in the northeast corner begins a gentle southern slope, a pasture land with many small trees, with a few stones showing. This is the burial ground for Colt's Station.

Follow Route 89 south for two miles and a paved road turns off to the east and Little Hope. As you enter the village the cemetery on the left looks down on the West Branch of French Creek, the site of Leverett Bissell's sawmill and loading dock.

Two miles beyond the village and you come to a good improved gravel road running north and south, the Ashton Road. Turn south and follow this road for about three miles. Here is a house on the west side of the road with the barn on the east side and an unimproved gravel road running on the Venango-Greenfield township line to the New York State line a mile to the east. Here are located the lands mentioned in Judah Colt's letter of April 5, 1807 to the Commissioners of Erie County, as having Carnahans as intruders.

The house should be in the northeast corner of Tract 28 Venango Township, with No. 27 two-thirds of a mile to the south; Tract 8 Range 2 Greenfield Township is immediately to the north of the house; Tract 8 Range 1 Greenfield Township reaches to the New York line just north of the township line road, with Tract 7 Range 1 bordering to the north of it. The Carnahans had picked their lands for a tight little neighborhood but they like the others were probably ejected without getting the 150 acres sometimes given for their labors. Most of the advance settlers lost their investment in money, also their labor in clearing and improving the land without getting a cent in return.

All records were destroyed in the courthouse fire of March 25, 1823, on a Sunday morning. Some farmers had finished paying for their lands the Saturday before and lost everything as they could not prove payment. To this day the people of this section will not talk about their land titles for fear they may lose their homes.

The land itself is not so good. Much of it is in Land Bank, reforestry project or a Game Farm. It is only fit for dairying. The people say that they can raise four kinds of vegetables normally. This high ridge is the last to thaw in the spring and the first to freeze in the fall. It can be farmed but not profitably.

At the time it looked like a good place to settle as it was on the shortest portage to Lake Erie. None could foresee that the waterways would be followed by wagon roads, turnpikes, canals, railroads and thruways on the land and by schooners, steamboats and motor vessels on Lake Erie. The people that won the lands were little better off than those they ejected. Those ejected were too old, poor and discouraged to go elsewhere for another start. They rented lands, bought small holdings, or worked as laborers for others.

It is my opinion that John Carnahan and the early members of his family to pass on are buried in the unmarked graves of the now overgrown Middlebrook Cemetery. There was the first Presbyterian Church in the county, active from 1801 to 1843, a few miles from their lands, about two miles north of Lowville on the east side of Route 89. They were of this faith and would wish to be buried there. There are no gravestones with the family name on them, but many of these have disappeared over the years for building material on nearby farms.

Thomas Carnahan and his family left Erie County sometime after 1815, the end of the War of 1812, and the Census of 1820. During 1813 a road had been built through the county along what is now Route 19, when Commodore Perry cut it through to transport the cables, sails, guns, stores and tackle from Pittsburgh for the fleet he was building at Erie. Still it would have been easier for Thomas to take

his family by boat down the French Creek-Allegheny River--Ohio River to what is now Lawrence County. What they did here and how they fared until 1835 is not known. In 1835 the family moved to Richland County, Ohio, near the village of Olivesburg.

Here they remained until 1854 and 1855 when the younger members of the family and the widowed mother moved to DeKalb County, Indiana.

I believe this is about all the information of our branch of the Carnahan Family in Erie County that we can be sure of. There were other Carnahans there then and there are other Carnahans there now, which makes it necessary that we be careful of the data we accept. We would not care to endure their hardships and disappointments but we can envy them the hunting they had.

Hugh L Carnahan
Hugh L. Carnahan, 0122016

Colonel, Army of the United States, Retired.



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